

MERRY CHRISTMAS

B.A.R.

BAY AREA REPORTER

1528 15th Street, San Francisco, CA 94103 • Tel: 861-5019

19 Gays in DC Posts

Why Not In San Francisco?

by George Heymont

The Mayor of Washington, D.C., was honored at a fundraising event for the Mayoral Appointments Project of the Gay Activists Alliance on December 9. Also honored were 19 openly Gay men and women who serve or have served on various boards and commissions of the District of Columbia. The project was conceived shortly after Mayor Marion Barry's election in November of 1978 as Washington Gays sought to place themselves as quickly as possible into the mainstream of the District's political life. The project became a formal entity in June of 1979 under the direction of Mel Boozer. When Boozer was elected President of GAA this fall, Tom Chorlton became coordinator of the project.

Remarking on the success of the project, Chorlton told *The Washington Blade*: "We've tried to reach out to the whole

community and in doing so we have brought in some outstanding people. If you're going to join the Engineering Board you don't need to be an activist. You need to be a goddamn good engineer." Chorlton has also suggested an orientation plan for new Gay board members which would equip them to deal with such problems and help give them the tools to revitalize and shape the direction of many boards.

The 14 District Boards which currently have one or more Gay members include: the Human Rights Commission; Commission for Women; the Alcoholic Advisory Council; the Statewide Health Coordinating Council; the Joint Committee on Landmarks of the National Capital; the Mental Health Advisory Council; the Cosmetology Board; the Juvenile Justice Advisory Group; the Council of Governments'

Advisory Committee on Human Resources; the Board of Library Trustees; the Overall Economic Development Advisory Committee; the Committee on Police Press Passes; the Advisory Committee on Drug Abuse; and the Advisory Committee on Emergency Medical Services.

Nominations are pending for 12 other boards ranging from the Civilian Complaint Review Board and Mayor's Committee on Child Abuse and Neglect to the D.C. Citizen's Traffic Board and Commission on Post Secondary Education. It would seem that such an aggressive stand by Mayor Barry in the nation's capital (where many Gays function in a closeted lifestyle) is in direct contrast to the appointments to date in San Francisco, which boasts of the most politically active Gay community in the nation. Perhaps some helpful hints could be given by Mayor Barry at the next meeting of the nation's mayors as to just how it's done. He is obviously not a man who waits until it is politically convenient for him to appoint Gays to municipal posts. ■

Atlas Proceeds Through Final Stages of Organization

Gay Savings and Loan A Near Reality

John Schmidt, insurance agent, past president of the GGBA, and a director of the soon-to-be Atlas Savings and Loan, this week brought the B.A.R. up to date on the happenings at Atlas.

Atlas is well into raising the last half-million required by government regulations before it can open its doors. This past weekend three directors went to Los Angeles and staffed a booth at the three-day Gay Lifestyles Expo. Schmidt, who was accompanied by directors Charlotte Coleman and Bob Wharton, said they dealt with more than 500 people. Over 200 actually sat down with one of the directors or members of the advisory committee to discuss in detail the Gay bank. Attorneys Steve Brown and

(Continued on Page 2)



The Jaguar Book Store Christmas tree vies with the decorations at "hibernia Beach." Notwithstanding, four police were on hand this Wednesday morning to help the Jaguar open for business. The B.A.R. has received a number of reports of Gays being busted in the 18th and Castro environs. The area is awash with undercover vice squad and decoys. Have a happy holiday and get smart. (Photo by Rink)

'Sentinel' Publisher Takes Stand in Bankruptcy Proceedings

Paper to Trim Operations

by Paul Lorch

Charles Lee Morris, publisher and sole owner of *The Sentinel*, took the stand last week in Federal Bankruptcy Court here to tell his creditors how he plans to reorganize his operations so that he can pay his debts.

In a Voluntary Petition Under Chapter Eleven (Case No. 3-80-02232) filed November 4, 1980, in the U.S. Bankruptcy Court, Morris totaled his debts at \$120,921.14. As of that date he listed his total property as \$96,009.80 which included \$22,003 in assets (office equipment and supplies), \$44,260 in accounts receivable, and \$29,196 in anticipated income. Also as part of his assets, he declared at that filing a bank balance of \$200 and \$350 cash on hand.

Listed on his major debts were some \$40,000 owed to the Internal Revenue Service (for FIT and FICA withholding) from April 1977 through Sep-

tember 1980. For the same dates approximately \$3,700 is owed to the State of California Employment Development Department (for SIT and Unemployment withholding). In addition, he listed \$2,151 unpaid employees' group health insurance premiums from June to October of this year.

The previous week to Morris' court date, the U.S. Bankruptcy Court had appointed four of his major creditors to a Bankruptcy Committee to oversee his performance. Named were a representative of Warren's Waller Press (the paper's printer), Pacific Glass Co. (glass repair), Robert L. Coglianese (wages, commissions, and penalties), and Walter Thomas Burdick (wages, commissions, and penalties). The latter two claims which total close to \$10,500 are disputed by Morris. Coglianese and Burdick are two of the former *Sentinel* employees who left the

(Continued on Page 4)



Supervisor Harry Britt the day following his beating in the Fillmore. The attack occurred Sunday, December 7, at 12:45pm. Britt was in transit from one meeting to another. Britt was walking on Divisadero between Golden Gate and Turk. Three youths passed Britt, and one suddenly turned and threw the city's leading Gay politician against a brick wall. His glasses were knocked off and he suffered minor head abrasions. (Photo by Rink)



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Atlas Proceeds Through Final Stages Of Organization

Gay Savings and Loan A Near Reality



Gay Atlas Savings and Loan directors at L.A. Expo. (L to R) Bob Wharton, Charlotte Coleman, and John Schmidt. (Photo by Terry Monahan)

Jason Falk, two of the 22-member advisory committee, joined the three (out of eight) directors.

Atlas, the first Gay financial institution in the world, is planning to raise the \$2 million in stock purchases by January 31 (the current extension) said Schmidt. "Atlas is more than just another bank, another business venture . . . when it opens and begins flourishing another giant step will be made in Gay credibility." Schmidt noted that all segments of society react positively to economic clout. Hence, to belong to Atlas either through purchasing stock, opening a savings account, or doing business there once it opens its doors will be a milestone in Gay rights progress. Stock is selling at \$12.50 a share, a minimum of ten shares (\$125) can be purchased.

Many businesses rather than giving presents or cash for Christmas are giving their employees Atlas stock for Christmas gifts or year-end bonuses said Schmidt.

At the same time, Atlas directors are about to select their

chief executive officer. The field has been narrowed to three candidates. The chief officer will take over around February 1. Another current task of the directors is the selection of electronic equipment (a major decision). This selection goes hand in hand with whoever becomes bank manager, as the two should be compatible.

Atlas offices are at 1967 Market Street (at Duboce) and are open from 10am to 7pm Monday through Saturday. For specifics phone 552-6700. ■



Atlas booth



HOMICIDE Buena Vista Park

On November 24 at approximately 10:00am, the body of Donald L. Meder was discovered in the northeast section of Buena Vista Park. Donald Meder, a white male, was approximately 43 years of age and lived at 157 Fillmore Street. He apparently encountered his assailant while walking in the park the night before. Death was due to a stab wound. Since Mr. Meder was Gay, the Gay community in particular is being asked for information on this case.

A \$2,000 reward is being offered by the Chamber of Commerce's Secret Witness Program to anyone providing information leading to the arrest and prosecution of the perpetrator(s) of Donald Meder's murder. The person providing the information can remain completely anonymous. He/she will receive a secret number at the time the information is provided. If the tip leads to an arrest and prosecution, that fact will be publicized and the informant will be instructed to phone the Secret Witness Program to make arrangements to receive the reward.

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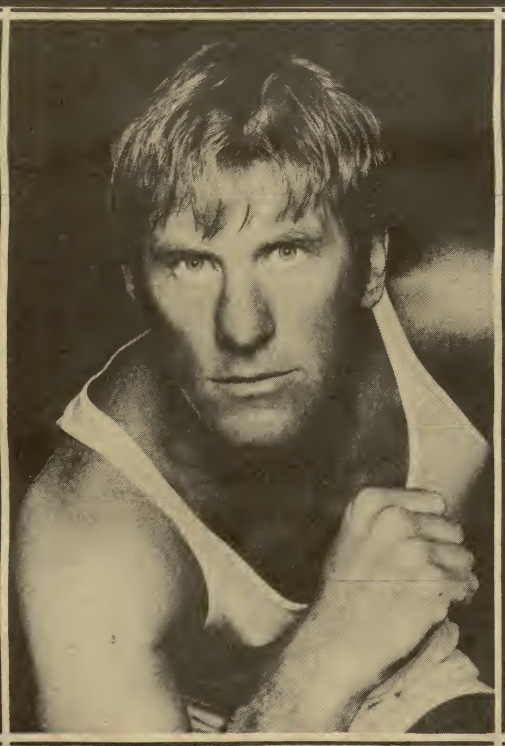
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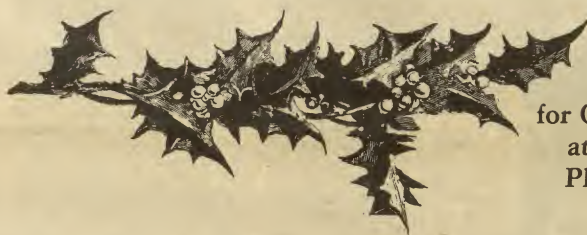
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Sentinel

(Continued from Page 1)

paper in November 1979. They were subsequently awarded these amounts by the California Labor Commission. In turn Morris appealed that judgement in several jurisdictions. He filed his claim in the bankruptcy court November 4, the day before his appeal was to be heard in State court.

Under oath Morris took the stand on the morning of December 11, before his creditors and their attorneys. The hearing (presided over by a court-appointed hearing officer) was held in Room 19428 of the Federal Building at 450 Golden Gate Avenue. Morris opened the proceedings by reading a prepared statement that according to observers was a recital of his charges that certain persons were out to take *The Sentinel* over and of his determination to prevent it at all costs. These statements were followed by a question and answer period where attorney Betsy Calloway and Creditor Committee member Bob Coglianese called upon Morris to explain items in his original Voluntary Petition of Bankruptcy. He announced that one third of his listed creditors had been paid off in part or in full. Some \$5,000 had been paid to IRS.

Creditor Tom Burdick, who



Charles Lee Morris (center) — seen here in an earlier photograph with Allan Johnson, volunteer aide to Supervisor Louise Renne, and ex-SENTINEL photographer John Gieske — will meet with creditors in court again in 120 days. (Photo by Rink)

attended the session, commented that it seemed Morris was paying off those he chose and putting a hold on everything he doesn't want to pay. Morris was under oath and his testimony was recorded. Morris reportedly balked at certain questions from the creditors' attorney. He also itemized certain steps *The Sentinel* was taking to cut costs and raise additional revenue. Two staff members have been eliminated, including Advertising Director Michael W. Scott, who came to *The Sentinel* from *The*

Advocate. Morris promised to raise the percentage of advertising per page, to cut back on pages. The print run of the paper has also been reduced. He said that he would begin selling issues in sidewalk boxes. He was reported to have said that he would apply to the State of California for a work sharing program (a variety on the CETA employee where the state pays part of the wages). He also said that advertising rates would be raised. Display advertising rates were last raised in June of this year.

Morris has 120 days to come up with a detailed plan on how he is reorganizing and how he is paying off his debts. This first meeting with his creditors was so that he could give an account of his last month's activities; also, it was an opportunity for his creditors to interrogate him, his attorney, and his accountant.

The Creditors Committee of four (two of whom are part of the original *Sentinel* and no fans of Charles Lee Morris) can meet anytime they chose out of court. They can accept or reject Morris' plan should they choose to wait 120 days. They have the right to examine books, and at any time they can request the court to appoint an examiner or a trustee. If they reject Morris' plan, they can also call upon the bankruptcy court to place the corporation in full bankruptcy.

Paul Lorch

**JOIN
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now through
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Anti-Gay Violence

Silver Has Mixed Success on Proposals for Gays



SF Street Monitors in a practice session; they will not monitor non-Gay parades. (Photo by Rink)

Following up on proposals to get more police on the streets, Supervisor Carol Ruth Silver ran into a solid wall of Gay opposition on facets of her plan.

In the December 4 B.A.R. Silver, via an open letter to the Gay community, proposed a 5-point program to reduce violence on the city streets. One of her major proposals was to get more police patrols on the streets via some specific programs. Among other things were suggestions to reinstate the now defunct unit of Volunteer Auxiliary Police Officers and to offer pay incentives to police who would live in San Francisco or move back to the city. A third suggestion was to use volunteer monitors instead of police for all parades in the city. She wrote, "Using monitors instead of police can save an amount of police hours estimated at up to \$29,000 per parade."

Last week she called a meeting at City Hall to present the ideas and invited members of the San Francisco Street Monitors, the heads of CUAV (Community United Against Violence), Ben Gardner of the Butterfly Brigade, and other Gays concerned over the rise in violence against Gays.

The suggestion to supply Gay monitors to events outside the Gay community was rejected by all present for a myriad of reasons. All agreed that monitors — in the best of circumstances — walk a fine line be-

stances — walk a fine line and must develop a rapport with the crowds they seek to control. To "invade alien territory" would make their positions extremely jeopardous. They could not see how they could be effective at St. Patrick's Day or Columbus Day parades. Monitor board members Bob Futch, Duke Armstrong, Vicki

Armigo and Evelyn Decker were most firm on this point. Others could not see how, if Gays volunteered to release police for some duties, the police in turn would allocate that saved time to Gay needs. Monitor board member Robert Dunn said that his group had extensive resources and expertise in the field and would be more than willing to share their skills.

Silver concluded that Gays going beyond their established territory was going nowhere and moved those present into a discussion of resuming patrols.



CUAV's Dick Stingel not enthused with Supervisor's plan.

The idea of expanding patrols was also met by mixed reaction. CUAV presently has a Friday night patrol in the Castro. Again the idea came across that Gays would share their expertise but were reluctant to venture in uncharted territory.

The following day Silver and her aides met with the SFPD to pursue the topic. Police Chief Con Murphy, Deputy Chief Ryan and Deputy Chief Shannon "essentially agreed to go along with" the Silver plan for monitors and citizens' patrols. They agreed to do some training to get the rank and file to be cooperative with the citizen auxiliaries. They agreed to meet again, explore further, and offer their expertise.

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Parade Palaver

by Konstantin Berlandt

The Lesbian/Gay Parade Committee spent two hours Sunday at the Women's Building going over their new bylaws, which were passed by the consensus of the 30 people there, with one abstention. The bylaws will no be filed with the state to complete their process of reincorporating those who were the General Membership of last year's Gay Freedom Day Committee, leaving the GFDC corporate Board of Directors without a membership to direct the making of next year's parade, unless they now form their own new membership or merge their efforts with the new committee. The committee will elect its new officers in January if not compromise is worked out with the Board.

Arbitration between the two groups aided by Capp Street Foundation, conduit for the City Hotel Tax Fund's \$9,000 contribution to the parade, has been put off until the GFDC Board contacts the foundation and comes up with a plan.

Meanwhile, the new L/GPC plan of intentional mass democratic structure is a paper duckling ready to set sail if its wings are filled in by the community come their officer nominating meeting on Sunday, January 11, at the Women's Building.

The new bylaws include a minority and disabled parity clause to be achieved within two years or extended for two more if documentation can be shown that sincere and sufficient outreach to those communities has been done. If parity percentages are not achieved by their deadlines, the organization is obliged by its own bylaws to dissolve.

Also passed (though still open to discussion by subcommittee to convene in February and recommend any appropriate amendments) is a membership requirement of two successive meetings attended to

vote. Also provided for are an automatic elimination of voting privileges if three consecutive, regularly scheduled, mostly monthly, meetings are missed. Voting membership can be renewed through attendance at two consecutive meetings once again.

This bylaw is aimed at the continuing problem of stacked meetings with inadequate decision-making continuity. The new rules promote an active general membership to make and review committee decisions.

A Grievance subcommittee is also part of the new bylaws. Intended to service groups or individuals who have a beef with the Parade Committee, the Grievance Committee is charged with representing such complaints to the membership and/or steering committee, made up of subcommittee co-chairs, to insure that serious problems voiced by segments of the broader community are not overlooked in the Parade Committee's concentration on the details of progress toward the big event.

Contention between the still two parade committees seems to center upon the primacy of a general membership versus a more powerful corporate Board of Directors. This year on June 19, ten days before Gay Freedom Day, the Board of Directors overruled the General Membership's elected speakers list, setting the stage on the day of the event for confrontation over who had legitimacy to speak. In turn, elements of the membership stormed the stage.

Members of the Board appear to favor a strategy of an expanded Board that attempts to represent various aspects of the community through itself, while members of the newly incorporated parade committee seem more to favor a Board of

Directors that emanates from the membership and is in service to implement their decisions.

In the newly passed bylaws there is a checks and balances system that allows their Board to overrule the general membership with a 60 percent vote of the entire Board, but such veto must be resubmitted to the membership who may override with a two-thirds vote.

All in all, the controversy may seem like too much ado over the minute details of a silly party, but the event remains perhaps one of the world's largest quasi-political, regularly scheduled gatherings, and for Gay people in particular still not only a major event in the coming year but, in light of an adverse political situation, perhaps crucial to our own movement for sovereign identity and self-defense.

Who has say, then, in how the day's activities are structured could have a bearing on

all our futures. Broad community input is, of course, essential to achieve both broad community defense and support, but also in maintaining and developing the broadest possible self-definition of whom we are.

The Gay parade annually acts as a mirror to who we are and how we've grown, and necessarily must incorporate both the undertow from the previous year together with the new swell of current trends.

If no compromise between the two committees yet vying

for a following to produce the '81 parade and related activities is achieved before January, community input itself will probably determine by which arrangement this and future parades shall be organized. ■

Konstantin Berlandt

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From this assemblage could or could not come next year's Gay parade. (Photo by Rink)

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December 10 through January 11

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Publication of photos, ads and articles does not necessarily mean that the subject matter is Gay-oriented.

Letters...

SCVCHR HOLDS HEATED ELECTION AND COMPLAINTS

* The Santa Clara Valley Coalition for Human Rights meeting on November 17 looked something like the early days of the coalition when it was not uncommon to have heated arguments on just about anything.

That, however, is the only clear resemblance to those highly idealistic and painfully democratic days. The meeting began with two main factions that were not communicating on anything. One of the groups developed a "to vote for" and a "not to vote for" or "hit" list. I feel very much like I attended a public execution.

The process of importing people who have never been to a meeting before, did not intend to return for another, and had no knowledge of the personalities or the issues, for the purposes of "getting" certain officers of the Board has never appealed to me. I am particularly incensed, however, by use of this back-room political maneuver in an organization that is called a "coalition" and is supposedly founded upon the principles of mutual understanding and common respect for varying viewpoints and ideals.

Perhaps I am still naive, but naivete does not write off my honor at the utter disregard the Staggs-Accardi group had for the contribution of the minority faction. There was a time when people were not afraid of, in fact welcomed, differences. What happened? Have we become so well developed politically that political expediency outweighs what was once that mutual respect that was our strongest point?

I serve on the board today because several people who had sufficient votes to get elected refused to serve because of the shady election tactics employed by some members of the coalition. Before the board was five minutes old there were several resignations, with several more still likely to occur. Their refusal to cooperate with such an injustice I find entirely understandable.

To be sure, I believe that the engineers of this event will find that they have created a monster that will haunt them for a long time to come.

In closing I do have one positive note. I have never seen so many people unhappy about a local political event (other than the A&B defeat), and I am glad that it has finally happened. It's time for all these pissed-off people to get on the ball and take responsibility for leadership. If that means holding these "leaders" directly responsible for their actions or if it means replacing them, then it's time to do just that.

Kent Olson

BUENA VISTA DANGERS

* This letter is the follow-up you requested per our phone conversation of this afternoon regarding the recent murder in Buena Vista Park.

I wrote a "Letter to the Editor" and it was published in your November 20 edition. In that letter I talked of being attacked by a robber posing as a cop. I wanted to warn men who use the park not to fall for that line because it means you lower your guard and are not trying to defend yourself when you actually should.

I also wrote that the man I was with (fucking, to be exact) fled without making a sound of warning to the other men in the park that night. This leads me to believe he was working with the robber. If he wasn't, why on earth didn't he yell for help. I could have been murdered as was this poor man Sunday night. Was he killed because he let down his guard to a man posing as a cop??? Or was he murdered because the man he was having sex with fled silently into the night and left him with a murderer???

It's time Gay men started helping one another. United We Stand!

Name withheld by request

EASE OFF ON ANITA

* As a recovered drug addict/alcoholic I know from personal experience the potential for a physical-spiritual and emotional conversion. I think it's quite possible — even highly probable, due to a few key "code phrases" — for Anita Bryant to have changed her ideas in a most remarkable way.

The frenzied frothings-at-the-mouth by such Gay Readerland luminaries as Wayne Friday, Thomas M. Edwards, et al, towards Ms. Bryant — insisting, nay shrieking, that she is still Evil Incarnate to those of us who are, uh, well, you know . . . "that way" — go beyond being cruel, petty, vicious and ugly.

After all, Anita Bryant, per se, was NEVER the problem — rather, it was her IDEAS that were the problem as well as the phenomenal manner in which she presented and promoted these ideas.

Evidently she has begun a long and arduous process of self-inventory and is willing to share her new insights with all and sundry. While I do not think it prudent at this early stage for Gays to embrace Anita Bryant in a tearful thanksgiving (she might, after all, suffer a relapse) the situation bears watching — and delicate handling. Who knows?

As a final note, I suggest that the Messrs. Friday, Edwards, et al, memorize that bit from Shakespeare that goes something like, "The quality of mercy is not strained. . ."

While I am neither ashamed nor embarrassed at being an addict/alcoholic, I'll refrain from glorifying in it by name.

Anonymous

SAFE STREETS

Dear Mayor Feinstein:

Knowing how serious the San Francisco Police Department is about ending street crime, I decided to share this incident with you.

Tonight while out strolling in the Haight I looked up to see a police car come to a grinding halt at the corner of Haight and Cole Streets. Two of SF's finest jumped out prepared to do their duty. It seems a heinous crime was in the process of being committed. A well-dressed, yet obviously dangerous middle-aged man, was seriously engaged in defacing public property while his female accomplice looked on. The depraved individual was apparently scratching his or her name(s) in freshly poured cement with a lethal 3-inch penknife. The officer in charge, without regard to his own safety, confiscated the dangerous weapon and then proceeded to tongue-lash and thoroughly embarrass the aforementioned deviants.

I find it reassuring that officers such as these are doing their duty. I'm grateful that I can walk down the street and not be molested by "mindless thugs" who insist on using fresh cement to vent their hostility. With a 20% yearly increase in violent street crime; i.e. murder, rape, bag bashing, it's heartening to know our sidewalks are being made safe.

Though most citizens are terrified to walk the streets at night, I'm not! I know that I'm being protected from graffiti artists and drug-crazed marijuana smokers. Keep up the good work!

Alan M. Hamm
San Francisco

P.S.: It's been nearly an entire year since I was last mugged!

TO THE SISTERS' DEFENSE

* The 11 people who wrote to say the Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence were a gathering of nonsense reminded me of the mid-60's when light-skinned Blacks were trying to pass as White. They hated the dark-skinned Blacks because they were reminded of themselves.

The Sisters are the best thing to come to this tired community in a decade. The guts to do such a drag number shows the people in the Sisters are more at peace with themselves than most of the rest of us are with ourselves.

And, furthermore, as a Native, I resent these macho queens coming to San Francisco to do their repression on us. It is because of these people that their hometowns — Wichita, Miami, San Diego, and whatnot — are the dreadful bores they are. San Francisco was an eccentric city since well before the turn of the century. These macho queens knew what they were getting into before they moved here. It's just that these macho queens won't face up to the fact that they are fags. Fags — the word will not go away until Sisters and macho queens stop fucking men. We're all in the same boat.

Yeah — I used to feel that dragpeople were a blight. I felt that "society" wouldn't give us our rights. But then, I fell in love with a drag queen and the whole picture became a lot clearer.

David Kaye
San Francisco Gay Rap

Viewpoint

COUNT YOUR BLESSINGS

Another year ticks out its final moments . . . and out of those remaining, we typically take time to assess. What has been 1980 for Gay San Franciscans?

To read what Gays elsewhere say and write about San Francisco, you would think we here had constructed heaven on earth for Gay living. For someone from Oklahoma City or Tel Aviv, Castro Street indeed surpasses their wildest dreams. The ghetto remains the form and substance of wet dreams everywhere. And while we have gained the Freedom, we have not gained the Responsibility. Like the St. Anthony's Dining Room diners, our Gay life here remains based on handouts.

A year ago at this time hopes were high that one politician would finally bring Gays into the mainstream of civic life with pride and commitment. A Gay vote decided that December 1979 election — and to date the recognition of Gays has been honored by ribbon-cutting ceremonies, not by sharing the political trough. A year later we are "more outside" than we have been in the last five years. A count of upfront Gay appointments by Dianne Feinstein is a rude total: We have been given the royal finger.

Is this unusual? In the two-year old administration of Washington, D.C.'s, Mayor Marion Barry — a man secure in his minority status — 19 Gay men and Lesbians have been appointed to major and minor boards, commissions — and there are 12 more being considered. Yes, that's 19 versus Jo Daly. That's the national capital versus the Gay capital. Some Gay capital. . .

What's worse, we were shortly into the new year when the Gay debt became the Gay liability — the mayor's sudden albatross. And she began an ever-widening distancing . . . particularly in the days when a Peking duck seemed within her clutch. San Francisco Gays have been the cheapest political payoff since Richard Nixon dubbed L. Patrick Gray as head of the F.B.I. (Remember the . . . "let him twist in the wind. . .")

Over the year violent crime has risen its typical 20%. When we lament that it's massively directed against Gays, we are passed off as being typically hysterical. We now have Gay cops whose whereabouts are known only to their most intimate sex partners. We have allowed ourselves to take the rap for the housing crisis because we put in copper plumbing and geranium-filled window boxes. On top of all that we are then accused of incessive poundine of the Mayor and picking on Charlie McCarthy.

(Continued on next page)

Letters...

DEAR MAYOR, WAKE UP

Dear Mayor Feinstein:

First, I wish to express my love for our city. San Francisco is one of the greatest examples of a mixed society in the free world. It is a city of greatness, not only because of the buildings, but the people who make it what it is. The freedom we all share is slowly being taken away by a small group of punks, at the crime rate of 22% a year.

I was in the march Thanksgiving night to express my sadness to all who watched and joined with me. I find it ironic that the people who are supposed to serve and protect the city were detestable, not at all law abiding. Twice I was hit by a motorcycle policeman. Not a rookie, but a sergeant, motorcycle #103. The patrol car, which had four cops in it, were swearing at us, while making lewd gestures with their hands.

Mayor Feinstein, you run the Police Department, which I might add is the finest in the country. But if they cannot set a good example, what the hell good is it? I urge you to do something before we have a Watts, or some crazy thing similar. If an already oppressed people are pushed into a corner, they will fight back, and hard. Please, do not allow all of this to continue. I don't want to carry mace, or anything that might hurt someone, especially a young person who has a long life ahead of them.

I think you are a very nice person; I always have. I just hope people like Dr. McSherry and others are not moving you towards the right with the literature they send you continuously. I also know that if nothing is done about the violence in the streets, and the Police Department, we will seek out a new Mayor. I respect the job you are doing, with the exception of the Police Department.

We will see what happens. Like my friend Wayne Friday said, "If she does something, I will be the first to stand up and thank her, and we will all rally around her." All we are asking for are good cops — not armed mobsters. I will support all actions you take to remedy this problem.

Thank you for your time.

Gary A. Johnson
San Francisco

ARBITRARY BATH RULES?

* I have never written a letter to an open forum, but a recent experience of mine concerning "bath house rudeness" corroborates Keith Hirdler's experience, and I feel the gay public should be made aware of these situations.

On a cold and rainy Wednesday, December 3, I decided to join the Liberty Baths on Post Street. After arriving there at 4PM I discovered that to join one needed a "referral," although this was not clearly posted as a requirement for membership. In fact, I later learned from a present member that he was never asked for a referral when he applied for membership last year. It would appear that in actuality no referral is required, that it depends on who is on, what the potential customer looks like, what his age is, and if he is a possible troublemaker by speaking out. At any rate, a gentleman ahead of me, who spoke with an accent, told the individual at the window that since he was visiting from West Germany he could not produce a referral. I interrupted that in the case of a foreign visitor the "rules" could be relaxed as long as the visitor could produce a passport. The attendant reiterated that "the rules are the rules" and that there was nothing he could do about it. I then asked if I could see the manager, who was standing behind him, but we were both ignored. I asked to see the manager two more times, upon which the attendant pompously and indignantly answered, "As long as I'm behind the counter, I'm the manager, and those are the rules." He turned around and walked away. Exasperated, I left the establishment. I do not know if the German gentleman ever was allowed to enter, but I felt embarrassed for being both American and gay, and outraged at yet another example of gay inhumanity to other gays.

As many of us who have traveled know, to gain entrance to bath houses abroad, all one does as a visitor is produce a passport. Liberty Baths' "Referral Rule" is not required by law, is capriciously applied, and when applied to foreign visitors who are not wanted, is inflexible and shabby. Obviously, Liberty does not want new members.

J. D. Anderson
San Francisco

LET'S STAND UP FOR US

* In response to Craig M. Machado's letter re Dolores Park violence in the November 20, 1980, issue, I address this to him and to the community.

We can "denounce loudly the present wave of violence against gays" all we want to. We can "continue to fight fear with compassion, understanding, and education, and love in the face of hate" (we do this last one daily, just by being gay). But when push comes to shove and we are threatened with violence that's how we need to respond, because by then it's too late for talk and understanding. When attacked with knives I hope we will not be "compassionate"

and stand still so they can shove it in real easy. That's what they expect, because that's what we used to show them.

Why is it that when gays prepare to defend themselves physically it's called vigilantism — even by other gays? If your letter implied this (to me it did) that's a typical candy-assed liberal attitude. It's not us who need the alternative to vigilante groups, it's them (i.e., youth gangs, anti-gay heterosexuals).

We need to focus on our own community's culture and deprivations and stop devoting disproportionate energy into the causes of others. For instance, we have to work within our own ranks on bigotry. There are a lot of pompous gays who sit up talking about "pepper-bellies" or "beaner" punks, trying to make it a racial issue, and both are guilty of wrongs. It's clearly not a racial issue.

Dan Serbins
San Francisco

FIRE AND THE FORTY THIEVES

* On November 8, at 3:30am, I and others ran for our lives because of the fire at 1242 Polk Street, leaving everything that we owned to the flames, water, and smoke.

Three years ago I moved into the unfurnished apartment, and the carpeted floor was my bed for three weeks. I went from the bed on the floor to a completely furnished apartment in time.

On the morning, hours after the fire, I discovered just how some members of the San Francisco Fire Department get excited when it comes to fires. I don't cut or attack all firefighters, because they do an outstanding job at every turn.

Mine was a corner apartment that overlooked Polk Street and Fern, on the third floor. The fire was stopped just about that point after burning in the hall, which was the wall to my closet, and I lost everything that was in the closet. The rest of the damage was from water and smoke.

To re-enter the apartment building, myself, as well as other tenants, had to be escorted by a fireman, and since it was just six hours after the fire had started, the SFFD was still there standing by, and I'm sure no one other than those who lived at 1242 Polk had entered the building.

I would like to thank only those firemen who were involved.

I would like to thank you for putting out the fire in my closet and not letting it burn the bedroom or the living room or the kitchen.

I would like to thank you for breaking the glass on the coffee table.

I want to thank you for smashing the color t.v., which Rent-A-Color wants me to pay for. The screen was smashed inward.

I want to thank you for throwing or knocking my stereo units to the floor which was in no way in danger from the fire, being in a corner and against a far wall. The system sat on a cabinet that also housed my records, tapes, and other items which had not been disturbed. Even if it had accidentally been bumped, the turntable, tuner and tape deck could not have fallen to the floor.

I want to thank you for "saving the life" of my 35mm camera and flash, and leaving the less expensive camera behind.

And my warmest thanks for removing, from the living room sofa, my leather, neatly laid out for the special events of the weekend, which included a vest, leather cap, gloves, jacket, collar, arm and wrist bands, collar and handcuffs. Thanks for overlooking or leaving my chaps.

I'm not sure if you did this because of the nude male photos and other items around that told you that I was gay, but I honestly feel that's why it was done.

Maybe it was done to cover up the fact that four cans of beer from my frig were drunk and the empty cans tossed into the burned out closet. And according to my ex-apartment managers, a Fire Captain was caught, red handed, with one of my canvas collages.

The fire caused me a great loss, but those extra helping hands, that didn't give a damn, didn't help one bit.

Lonnie W. Lee
San Francisco

A LOYAL B.A.R.-ITE

* I picked up two copies of B.A.R. on December 6 and went back on Monday, December 8, for one more — all gone, not only at one place but everywhere I looked!

Why? Because it offers so much news that hits us all between the eyes — an unusually sensitive news section!

All flattery! But if I could do this, maybe I'd be rich.

Reed Vernon
San Francisco

More Letters... Page 18



I have an exceptional house for sale on this Point. 3 bedrooms including a fabulous master suite, fitted office, gourmet kitchen, 2 entertaining rooms with views and including all furniture (most of which was custom made for the house) plus sophisticated alarm system. Owner returning to Florida WILL CARRY FINANCING AT 13%!!! with \$60,000 cash. Laid back area where there are no muggings or riots. Almost immediate occupancy. \$240,000.

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Viewpoint

(Continued from Page 6)

and geranium-filled window boxes. On top of all that we are then accused of incessant pounding of the mayor and picking on Charlie McCarthy.

The mayor frets because B.A.R. won't run her press releases, yet sees no point in granting an interview... after all, what is there to talk about...

Over the past twelve months San Francisco has grown less habitable. For years the mayor has bemoaned the exodus of the blue collar and white collar San Francisco worker (the kind of people with their feet planted in the earth). As a result of the city becoming less livable, Gays, too, have begun to move out of the city. Many are discovering that "life" precedes "liberty," and when the streets cannot be made safe, the rents are untenable, the jobs (outside of those in the servile trades) are moving elsewhere. Many mature and responsible Gays are reordering their priorities. For a thought... imagine a San Francisco without Gays — it would be a town as vital as Emeryville.

★ ★ ★ ★ ★

On the merrier side — once again we have proven what we do best we have done on our own. We have our first city-wide Supervisor (for whose recent street attacker — unlike the Hunters Point choristers' — no one has posted a reward). We have our first elected Community College Board member. Governor Brown has appointed two Gay judges, and we expect one or more for the Bay Area in the near future.

And in the arts we have been generating at an unprecedented scale: music, song, theater, books, poetry, dance, entertainment. There are the happier notes that set us apart.

And as the tourists gawk at our Christmas handiwork in the downtown department store windows, entertain yourself for a few hours with a tour of the Gay bars where the Christmas decorations dazzle and delight — where things are done by our people for our people. And we are at our best.

P. Lorch

Gay Republicans Install

Armstrong Chides Gay Demos

Newly-elected Municipal Court Judge Ina Gyemant this week swore in the executives and board of directors of Concerned Republicans for Individual Rights (CRIR). Attorney Duke Armstrong took over the reins of the fast-growing Gay Republican club from Kevin Wadsworth.

Several other political personages were on hand to witness the joint installation of officers and Christmas party including Caroline Marks (wife of State Senator Milton Marks) and Supervisors Britt, Bards and Hutch.

Armstrong told the Heritage House gathering, "We are the new Gay leadership and we have a serious responsibility to speak to and for the Gay community." He charged the three local Gay Democratic clubs with having sacrificed their principles on the altar of petty power politics. He chided the three clubs — Stonewall, Harvey Milk, and Alice Toklas — with having the same membership who travel from meeting to meeting. They are "controlled by the same small incestuous band . . . whose sole concern is delivering their club's endorsement to outside factions for their own political gain."

Armstrong's remarks were

interrupted several times by applause from the membership which has doubled in 1980 and which Armstrong plans to double in 1981. He said, "CRIR alone retains the spirit and integrity and sensitivity of the Gay community."

"We are the club of tomorrow," he continued; "we are in tune with the electorate and the times."

He outlined a 5-point program for his first year in office as club president. His proposals included plans for an annual awards banquet, finding more congenial meeting space, and revamping the club's endorsement procedures. He also pledged that he would not be running for office while he was president of the club.

Armstrong expressed no fears for Gay rights under a Reagan administration. He said that under a Reagan presidency "Gays can achieve much of substance. Individual rights has long been a hallmark of conservative philosophy and with a little nudge from us the new administration will quietly honor its commitment to that principle." Armstrong, the club's unopposed choice for president, was elected at their previous month's meeting. Paul Johnson is the new vice president.



Castro Street's Christmas tree (Photo by Rink)

Latest Mt. Tam Murder

Popular Gay Man

The body found Monday, Dec. 15, at the base of Mount Tamalpais has been identified as that of Paul Hayes, 40, a well-known and well-liked Gay San Franciscan. Hayes, who lived in the Haight, arrived here in 1971 from Long Beach.

Hayes was last seen by his friends Saturday night in various South of Market bars. A friend drove him home that night around 10:30 or 11:00; he was scheduled to go to the flea market on Sunday morning. Police estimate he was strangled to death sometime Sunday afternoon. He was found dressed only in his black T-shirt and levis. His leather boots and black leather jacket were gone. Hayes, who would have been 41 December 27, worked in the East Bay as an

engineering draftsman. He was a member of the Serpents M/C, a good friend and former lover of Serpents' founder Bob Clark.

Hayes did not own a car or motorcycle and according to friends did not go to Marin. Police estimate his body was dumped at the Mt. Tam site.

The murdered man was into leather and very popular in South of Market circles.

According to friends, Paul Hayes will be missed; his death came as a shock and the news spread rapidly through the leather community. No arrangements have been made at press time; his family have yet to claim the body. His friends here have decided to hold a service at some future date.

Washington GAA Joins With Police to Help Curb Public Sex

In an effort to reach their brothers before the Vice Squad does, Gay Activists Alliance of Washington is working with Park Police to cut down on public sex which leaves participants vulnerable to arrest. Steady complaints to the police of the National Park Service have resulted in increased pressure for a crackdown on Gay activities. GAA members believe that most of the men frequenting these areas have little or no contact with the Gay community. They fear warnings in the bars or in the Gay press would not reach these men who are involved in sensitive jobs, or have a wife and kids and possess negative feelings toward their own homosexuality. GAA will place warning leaflets on windshields in the parking areas near Turkey Run Park, the LBJ Memorial Grove, Columbia Island Marina, the Washington Sailing Marina, and the two Jima statue area. All locations border on the George Washington Memorial Parkway and Belle Haven Picnic Area or Dyke Marsh.

Park Police are well aware of the activity in the bushes. They claim as many as 75 men can be found having sex among the

trees at one time during the summer. Nearby bathrooms used for sex have brought repeated outcries from Columbia Island Marina boat owners. Captain Jordan of the Park Police confesses, "We get complaints from boat people saying one can't go to the bathroom without a guy staring you down and looking at your penis."

Jordan described his first visit to Dyke Marsh, a popular cruising area where trampled grasses attest to the high frequency of use. "I drove down the path and saw absolutely nothing. I looked to the left and to the right and didn't see a thing. Then I looked in my rearview mirror and, my Lord, there must have been 30 people who had been in the bushes on the path exiting toward their cars."

GAA is trying to avoid any charges that it is acting as a rubber stamp in Park Police arrests of Gays or that they are taking a stand on the touchy issue of public sex. "If people are discreet and there are no complaints, there is no problem. However, we really do have to be more considerate about other people's feelings," states GAA President Melvin Boozier.

Gay Hospice Formed

A Gay & Lesbian Hospice Society is in the process of formation. Its founders, Peter L.T. Messina (administrative director) and Jack Campbell (clinical director) intend to provide a multi-faceted support system for Gays facing terminal illness.

Messina says, "In the immediate future we will be conducting a support group providing and coordinating emotional, physical, and spiritual care for the terminally ill and their lovers, friends, and family. This will consist initially of a small weekly group to help members overcome problems they encounter in dealing with terminal illness through Sharing, Problem-Solving, and the use of other methods.

"The Hospiters anticipate the possibility of participants deciding that they will want separate groups of men and women, some or all of the time."

The principal organizers are both Gay men having a total of 17 years in the Human Care Service Movement. They are presently soliciting referrals for prospective group members, as well as comments and suggestions. All prospective members are advised that there will be a screening process in order to ensure mutual expectations and compatibility.

For further information phone 641-4367 or 626-3131.

Portland Gay Triumphs Over Department Store Firing

A member of the Portland Town Council was recently fired from his job as a top buyer for the women's clothing department of a fashionable department store. Mike Sandmeyer was warned by the chain's Vice-President to change his image and lifestyle by not frequenting Gay establishments, not belonging to Gay organizations, and bringing female dates to store social functions or functions where other store employees were likely to gather.

After rejecting the demands, Sandmeyer brought a male date to a buyers' lunch the following day. That evening he received a phone call from the store manager informing him that he had "quit" his job. The next day the store took away his key and charge card.

Sandmeyer's lawyer demanded a written apology from the store, back pay, reinstatement, and \$500 in damages for his client. Sandmeyer went one step further by threatening the Portland store manager with the possibility of a Gay boycott of the store. The manager, aware that a recent study had suggested that 30 percent of the store's sales in some departments were to Gay patrons, acceded to the lawyer's demands. Although he received a raise after his reinstatement, Sandmeyer voluntarily resigned the following week.

Portland Town Council is currently investigating reports that another department store chain, Meier & Frank Co., has a written policy forbidding the promotion of openly Gay employees.

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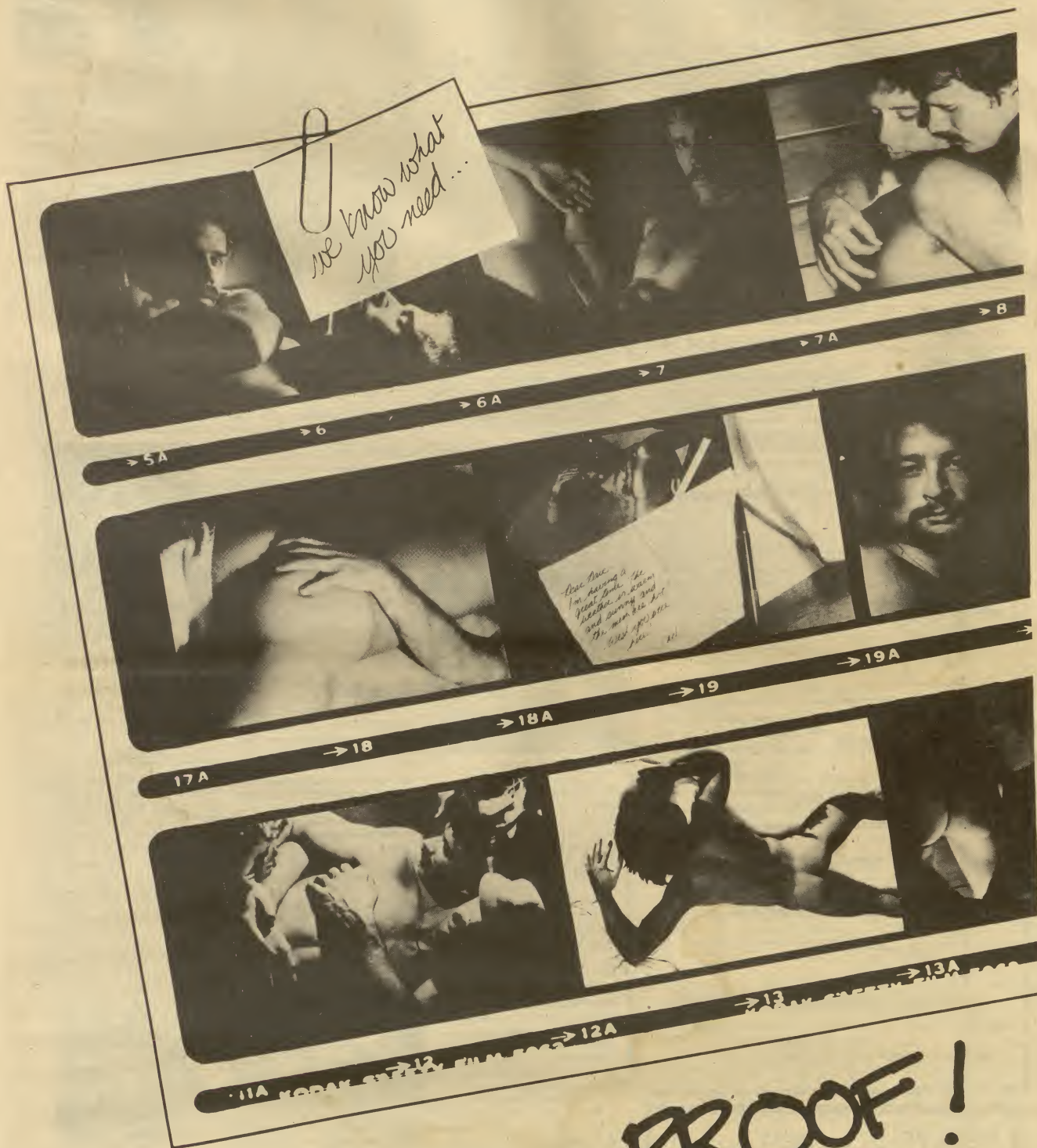
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A Look at the New Board

by Wayne Friday

The voters have decided that San Francisco will keep citywide election of Supervisors (for a couple of years, at least). Terence Hallinan has decided to drop his court challenge of the Nelder election. It is time to take a look at the new Board of Supervisors that will take office in January. For the first time in the city's history, this legislative body will have a majority of women (six); the political makeup of the Board will be nine Democrats and two Republicans; eight of those who will take office next month were already incumbents, having been elected previously as District Supervisors.

The new Board looks a lot like the old one — has a slightly liberal look — and although he placed second in last month's voting, the Board is expected to again elect the likable John Molinari to another term as President (it's simple: Molinari has 6 votes and Quentin Kopp has, at best, only 5).

HARRY BRITT

The only known Gay on the Board, and the first Gay candidate for Supervisor to win a citywide election, Britt placed sixth last month — assuring him a four-year term. Harry Britt was appointed to the Board in 1979 by Mayor Feinstein to replace the slain Harvey Milk. He is a native of Texas, spent eight years as a



Harry Britt

United Methodist minister, and is a graduate of Duke University. Britt was elected in his own right in 1979 to represent the 5th District; considered one of the Board's leading liberals, Britt strongly supports district election and is an outspoken champion of the rights of senior citizens, Gays, and other minorities. Harry Britt, appointed to a job originally he never sought, has become a good Supervisor. Britt is recognized as one of the leading Gay rights spokespersons in the country; he works hard at his City Hall job and has earned the respect of his colleagues on the Board. A Democrat, Britt has become allied with Board President Molinari and supports Molinari for another term as President.

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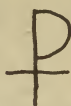


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— Pope John Paul II
— Jerry Falwell

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Good News for Gays & Lesbians
P.O. Box 11353 — San Francisco, CA. 94101

many see Richard Hongisto as a candidate for Mayor in the not-too-distant future. Hongisto is expected to cast his vote for John Molinari for Board President; Hongisto and Quentin Kopp have long been political adversaries. Dick Hongisto should make a good Supervisor.



John Molinari

ELLA HILL HUTCH

The Supervisor from District 4 under the old District system, Hutch was a strong vote-getter in the November election, placing 5th in the field of 11 elected. A native of Florida, Hutch has lived in the city for 25 years. A longtime Democrat activist, Hutch lives by herself in the Fillmore district, has long been employed by ILWU, was elected to the BART Board in 1974, and considers herself a

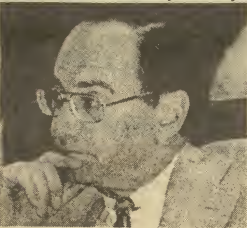


Ella Hill Hutch

political moderate. Hutch originally was elected to the Board in 1977 with support from the city's Gay community, but some of her votes and public positions since then subjected her to criticism from some quarters of the Gay community. Hutch, though uncommitted publicly, is expected by political observers to support Quentin Kopp for President of the new Board.

QUENTIN KOPP

A native of New York, Kopp opened a law office here in 1959. Kopp is a law graduate of Harvard and served in the Air Force during the Korean War. Prior to moving to the city, Kopp investigated rackets with the New York Waterfront Commission. Kopp was first elected to the Board in 1972 and has proven to be a strong vote-getter, nearly defeating Dianne Feinstein for Mayor last year; he is expected to again be a candidate for Mayor. Quentin Kopp is considered a fiscal genius, is respected even by those who dislike him politically, and served as Board President during 1976 and 1977. Kopp was top vote-getter in last month's voting for the Board of Supervisors, polling nearly 127,000 votes citywide, besting his second place challenger, Molinari, by nearly



Quentin Kopp

10,000 votes. Close friends of Quentin Kopp tell me he would like very much to one day serve in the U.S. House of Representatives. Kopp is a Democrat.

JOHN MOLINARI

Molinari, a liberal Republican, is a native of San Francisco and a graduate of the University of San Francisco. Molinari is an insurance executive and was first elected to the Board in 1971; he is currently serving a second term as Board President. Molinari is popular with Gays; and although he campaigned hard for Feinstein against Kopp, he is fiercely in-

dependent and many think he is sure to become a candidate for Mayor when the Mayor steps down. Molinari has publicly said himself that he would like to serve as either Mayor or Congressman. Molinari lives with his wife Louise in the North Beach area; he works hard at being a Supervisor, is accessible to everyone, and will probably be re-elected to head the Board again. Molinari is a good Supervisor, a friend of the Gay community, and I think he would make a good Mayor.

WENDY NELDER

Nelder is a native of San Francisco, a lawyer who graduated from the University of California at Berkeley and Hastings Law Schools. Nelder edged out attorney Terence



Wendy Nelder

Hallinan to place 11th and thereby was elected to a two-year term. Nelder is 39 years of age, the daughter of former Police Chief and Supervisor Al Nelder. She is thought to be a moderate Democrat who will probably cast her vote for Quentin Kopp for Board President.

LOUISE RENNE

Attorney Renne was appointed to the Board in 1978 by Mayor Feinstein. She is Chairperson of the important Finance Committee and instigated the creation of a special Supervisors' committee that authored the city's rent law. Louise Renne is 41 years old, lives in the Pacific Heights area with her husband Paul, and is a graduate of Columbia Law School. Renne is a former teacher at USF Law School and has been a director of the S.F. Bar Association; she is

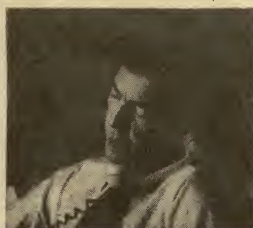


Louise Renne

also a former deputy attorney general. A longtime Democratic Party loyalist, Renne is a hard-working Supervisor; and although some critics say she is too closely tied to Mayor Feinstein, I find her likable and I trust her. Renne surprised nearly everyone by her strong third place showing in last month's election and will serve a four-year term. Louise Renne is a good Supervisor and an easy person to like. An ally of Molinari, Renne has announced she intends to vote to keep him as Board President.

CAROL RUTH SILVER

The Supervisor from the 6th District under the District sys-



Dick Hongisto

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Carol Ruth Silver

term of electing Supervisors, Silver is an attorney who lives in the Mission District with her two children. Silver, who has run for office citywide as a candidate for District Attorney, placed a strong 4th last month and is known to be seeking higher office. A strong supporter of District elections, Silver was first elected to the Board in 1977. She supports issues that affect Gay rights, is a liberal Supervisor, and is politically ambitious. Carol Ruth Silver is still very popular with many of the city's Gays.

DORIS WARD

A native of Indiana, Ward has lived here since 1968 and was elected to the S.F. Community College Board in 1972. A former teacher, Ward has long been a civil rights worker and was elected to represent the 7th Supervisorial District last year, ousting incumbent Robert Gonzales. Doris Ward is one of the brighter spots on this Board of Supervisors, and she works hard at the job, does her homework well, and is a good Supervisor. Ward is expected to vote for Molinari next month as Board President. Ward placed 8th in last month's voting, winning a two-year term.

NANCY WALKER

A native of Oklahoma, Walker first was elected to the Board last year when she defeated incumbent Lee Dolson to represent the 9th District. Walker moved to San Francisco in the 1960's, studied public administration at SF City College, and is a former director of the Victim/Witness Assistance Program where she worked until her election to the Board last year. One of the Board's leading liberals, Walker strongly supports District election of Supervisors and be-

lieves the city will go back to that system within a couple of years. Walker, a respected neighborhood activist and a hard-working Supervisor, will support Molinari next month. Walker placed 7th, winning a two-year term.

Wayne Friday

Gay Demo Club Members Take County Posts

Eight Gays and friends of the Gay community, all Gay political club members, were elected from San Francisco's three Assembly Districts to positions on the Democratic Party State Central Committee in elections held December 7.

16th A.D.: Delegates: Frank Fitch, Jo Kuney, Richard Sevilla. Delegate to Executive Committee: Frank Fitch. Committee Vice Chair: Jo Kuney.

17th A.D.: Delegate: Connie O'Connor, Vice-President of Alice. Delegate to Executive Committee and Committee Chair: Jane McKaskle Murphy. Alternate Representative to Executive Committee and Vice Chair: Lawrence Eppinette. Caucus Secretary: Anne Daley.

18th A.D.: Alternate Delegate: Robert Barnes, Jr.

All eight are members of the Alice B. Toklas Gay Democratic Club and several are also members of the Harvey Milk Gay Democratic Club.

A Step Forward For Gay Rights In Germany

Former Chancellor Willi Brand, while running for reelection to the German parliament took his first public stand on the issue of discrimination against German Gays. Brand stated that if re-elected he would recommend to the Federal Diet that homosexuals incarcerated in Nazi concentration camps receive compensation. He further said he believed it was time for homosexuals to be treated equally with heterosexuals under the law.

Supreme Court Refuses to Halt Gay Rights Lawsuit in Texas

On Monday, Dec. 8, the U.S. Supreme Court issued an order, refusing to hear arguments by Texas A&M University that it should be immune from a civil rights suit that was filed against it by a Gay student group.

The name of the case is *Gay Student Services v. Texas A&M University*, Supreme Court Case No. 80-252.

The student group applied for official recognition as a student group. The students filed a lawsuit in federal district court for the Southern District of Texas, seeking damages, declaratory relief, and an injunction. Judge Ross Sterling dismissed the lawsuit and the student group appealed to the United States Court of Appeal. On February 20, 1980, the Court of Appeal reversed the decision of the District Court and ordered Judge Sterling to reinstate the lawsuit and to hold a trial on the merits. The University then filed an request in the U.S. Supreme Court, asking that court to intervene and make the University immune from the lawsuit. The Supreme Court unanimously declined to interfere in the lawsuit and so the case will now go back to federal district court for a trial.

The National Committee for Sexual Civil Liberties filed an amicus curiae (friend of the court) brief on behalf of the student group. Thomas F. Coleman, co-director of the Litigation Project of the National Committee, upon learning of the decision of the Supreme Court, commented: "There is a growing body of federal law on the subject of Gay student organizations. Cases have been fought and won in Maine, Virginia, Missouri, and elsewhere. Now it looks like we may win this one in Texas. There are similar cases pending in other states, such as Oklahoma. The fact that not one Supreme Court justice voted to take the Texas case is a significant improvement over previous votes by that court in similar cases.

The Gay community around the country should be very grateful to these student groups for building this growing body of positive constitutional law on Gay rights issues."

The Supreme Court refused to hear a similar case in 1978. When the Court refused to hear arguments by the University of Missouri that it should not have to recognize a Gay group, Mr. Justice Rehnquist filed a stinging dissent. He was joined in his dissent by Chief Justice Burger and Mr. Justice Blackmun. In that dissent, Rehnquist stated: "From the point of view of the University, however, the question is more akin to whether those suffering from measles have a constitutional right, in violation of quarantine regulations, to associate together with others who do not presently have measles, in order to urge repeal of a state law providing that measles sufferers be quarantined."

Contrasting the Missouri case with the Texas case, Coleman added, "It is significant to note that not one justice, not even Rehnquist, voted to take the Texas case. This is quite a major improvement in just two years when Rehnquist compared homosexuality to measles and chided his colleagues for not taking the Missouri case."

Lesbian Quartet

A new play of old favorites: Rubyfruit Jungle, Patience & Sarah, and much, much more. Wheelchair accessible. Braille programs. Free admission. For free childcare call 526-6206. At Laney College Theatre, 900 Fallon St., Oakland. (Lake Merritt BART Station)

Saturday, Jan. 17, 8pm: same as above plus sign interpreter.

Sunday, Jan. 18, 2pm: same as Friday, Jan. 16, 8pm.

Friday, Jan. 23, 8pm: same as above.

Memphis Police Step Up Anti-Gay Harassment

Representatives of the Memphis Gay Coalition and the ACLU of Tennessee have joined to train members of the Gay community to act as "Gay rights advocates." These people will be trained to help victims of police harassment in both immediate and long-term needs after the victim's arrest. Sworn testimony of recent victims of anti-Gay police harassment are being compiled for evidence in a possible class action suit to be brought against the Memphis Police Department.

Several members of the Memphis Gay community have been subjected to extreme verbal abuse, trumped-up charges and continued surveillance by the Memphis police. "I was called every name in the book and a few I believe they made up," one victim told *The Gaze* (a Gay publication) after being arrested for public drunkenness and insufficient identification. The victim does not drink.

One representative of the Memphis Gay Coalition indicated that many members of the Gay community refuse to believe that police harassment is really taking place. "Unless a person has actually experienced harassment or seen it first-hand, the person finds it too hard to believe that our civil servants could really do such unbelievable things. But believe me, I've seen it, and they can and do commit acts that would make your skin crawl."

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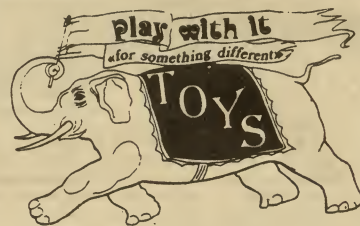
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A New CUAV'er Speaks

by Randy Schell

When I decided to take the responsibility of this column, I confronted a writer's crisis. This crisis revolved around two particular and polarized entities. Should I write from the point of the personal with its connotations of emotion, or should I write from the point of a safety factor — the role of the untouched observer? The answer was a journey for me, since I realized that CUAV is a very personal venture. Therefore, my observer status had to be buried.

I am, of course, not the first to abandon the role of the observer. In fact, anyone at CUAV or Harry Britt's office will let you in on a secret. Unless Gay men and women abandon the role of the observer they will be forced to deal with anti-Gay violence on a personal and agonizing plane. Collectively, this was manifested in public on October 9 when Gay men and Lesbians attested to that agony at City Hall for the Board of Supervisors' hearings on anti-Gay violence. The Board's chambers was packed to capacity as victim after victim of violence testified on their behalf and for those who were either incapacitated or dead. The only persons playing observer at these hearings were either the press or the Supervisors themselves. Harry Britt was obviously shaken by the intensity of the testimony. Little did he realize that two months

later he would be testifying for himself, a victim of an assault.

This was part of Harry's journey also, not unlike mine or anyone else who has either been a victim of anti-Gay violence or a witness to it. It is a message that warns us that the role of observing is a role that is eradicated by violent attacks on those who look toward others for the answers. It is a mandate that demands responsibility as well as prudence. One does not shun the role of blind observer by calling for anarchy and adopting vigilante methods to crush the violence that plagues the Gay community. One does not point a finger to either the police department or mayor and categorically condemn them for lack of interest. One does not solve any problems by insisting that the source of anti-Gay violence lies within the Latino community. Rather, the shedding of the role of observer is an act that requires that we shed the role of a community dictated by and operating on the element of fear.

We acknowledge fear as an emotion to contend with as victims of assault. We recognize its function, realizing it is an immediate condition following a crisis. But, San Francisco Gays must abandon it as a vehicle of politics or be crushed under it when it is manifested as panic. We must reject the notion that



Police decoys at work on Castro. (Photo by Rink)

fighting fire with fire will accomplish our ends. This is as dangerous a concept as pointing a finger to the police or the Latino community and crying "foul play." Roosevelt's message of having nothing to fear but fear itself is an echo worth hearing amongst all of us who must choose responsible action instead of irresponsible potshots at those we are trying to reach. This attitude as all of us have witnessed makes poor friends and is poor politics. For the Gay community to be politically dynamic, fear must be set aside from constructive muscle flexing.

If politicians turn a deaf ear, we must respond with the same ear at election time. If police officers do not act within the interests of our safety, those officers must be held accountable before a review board. If the review board is fearful of suspending an officer for violating our right to the pursuit of happiness, then that board must be recalled by the Gay constituency. Potshots are cheap. Organized efforts to remove opportunist politicians and police officers are not. When those opportunists place us in a situation of fear, we must experience it and then discard it. Fear is a shield, but organized power to discard it is a sword.

QUICK HITS

Here is a sampling of assault reports received by CUAV recently:

WE LOVE YOU, TOO

December 5 at high noon on Castro Street in the heart of our Golden Gay Ghetto. Two unenlightened assholes parade up and down the street wearing professionally done T-shirts that shout with bright red letters, "Fags! Get out of SF!" Their T-shirts were worn outside of their street clothing in a way designed to ram the message home to all of us fags. The two were carrying on verbally in addition to the graphic display. These T-shirts were first seen on the campus of the City College of San Francisco and, according to our sources, that college is where the shirts are being made and distributed. Apparently, City College is another place in our fair city where it isn't safe to be Gay.

ASSAULT WITH A MOTOR VEHICLE

On December 6 at 1:30am at the corner of Mission and Division (near Duboce and Mission) a clonish looking Gay man was walking in a crosswalk and a car approached at a fairly high rate of speed. The driver refused to stop or even pause

of a second. The Gay man escaped harm only by diving onto the roof of the car and rolling off. The victim told us that he was incredulous that the assault was carried out with no more care on the part of a driver than if he'd been attempting to swat a gnat. The license number was written down and reported.

THE LATEST VOGUE

On December 7, also at 1:30am at 18th and Eureka, a Gay man was walking alone. He recalls being struck in the back of his head. He doesn't recall anything else until two other Gay men woke him up and found that he'd been injured severely enough to require hospitalization. The victim's injuries were a fractured nose, lacerations, contusions, and a fractured skull. CUAV has received quite a number of reports lately where the victims were given skull fractures. This seems to be the latest thing in Twinkie gifts to Gay men. Hang on to your heads!

FIRST IT'S A B-B GUN...

It's dark. You decide to go to the neighborhood store. Rou-

tine? Yes, until some young Twinkie decides to take a pot-shot at you because he doesn't like your sexuality. That's just what happened to one Gay man at the corner of 17th and Noe last December 8 at 7:30pm. His assailant fired at him with an air rifle. The Twinkie didn't say anything. He just casually shot at his victim from across the street. Fortunately, he missed. For those of you who don't think an air rifle is anything more than a toy, try getting hit with one of those pellets at a range of ten yards. Getting one in the eye is deadly. This punk at the Noe Corral was arrested by the SFPD at the scene and the victim is pressing charges.

TAKE CARE OF YOURSELF

CUAV has a Mace class on December 20 at 10am at 117 Diamond Street. The cost is \$30 which includes the class, a certificate of training, the California state permit to carry Mace and one canister of the tear gas. Be safe!

Hotel Casa Loma Back in Business

Hotel Casa Loma has reopened following a \$250,000 renovation, announced George E. Roll, Manager. The hotel was closed September 4 after a fire set by a hotel guest damaged 12 interior rooms and destroyed the atrium, hot spa and sundeck. The new sundeck is larger for an even more spectacular view of downtown from the hotel's hilltop location at Fillmore and Fell. The atrium has been refinished, rooms rebuilt, and phones installed in each room. All carpeting has been replaced throughout, and the hotel has been repainted from top to bottom. Some of the deluxe rooms have been outfitted with executive refrigerators and color television.

"The best news of all," said Roll, "is that we are slashing our rates for singles in half for a

limited time to rebuild our clientele. That means singles at \$26-34 each will go for \$13-17, and that is less than rates were two years ago before the hot spa was installed and the Alamo Square Saloon was added. These half-price introductory rates are available on more than half of the 48 rooms in the hotel and will probably be in effect for several months until the hotel begins its year-long 75th anniversary celebration, postponed because of the fire."

The Alamo Square Saloon has become a popular neighborhood bar where locals can meet tourists over coffee or a drink. "We'll be glad to have our hotel guests back, and so will our saloon patrons," said Roll.

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The Men in My Life

Who's to be #2?

Paul-Francis Hartmann

Once in a while recognizing the limits of one's power and influence — like spring cleaning — keeps one from pontificating from dust-choked caverns. A small alternative press like the *B.A.R.* can occasionally affect the climate a degree or two — it seldom moves mountains. The further it stretches beyond its "legitimate" territory, the less clout it delivers. Still, it is taken into consideration — especially if it suits someone's purpose; i.e. *The National Enquirer* finds lots of items in the *B.A.R.* with which to startle their readers. They paint lurid what it reports.

One item of civic interest bears comment this issue — not that anyone will take "advice," nor am I sure many even care that much. Let's say I'm saying it for the record.

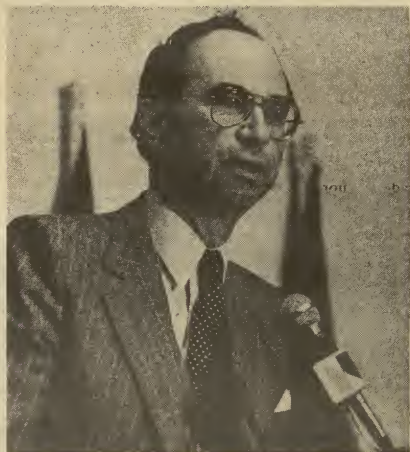
In January the Board of Supervisors are charged with selecting their President. The last time they so chose, the naked power plays were not particularly admirable with who was rewarded and who was punished for being on the wrong side. The squabble and squeals have begun again — and the gang emerge looking an unmade bed. This in itself has been one of the chronic

the glamorous moments — those of her own choosing — licks up the ovations and the potted poinsettias and rides off in her blue-black Lincoln limo. The current line-up of the Supervisor hierarchy are all her toadies — they elected her Mayor and in turn she pulled them along after her. It stands today a slick pyramid with Cleopatra and Mark Antony perched atop.

To further the analogy it would serve our city well to checkmate this empress with a Shavian Julius Caesar who — while less glamorous — has proven there's a lot more to piloting a barge than dancing on the poopdeck.

The city — and that includes Gay men and Lesbians — would be served well with the conscience, expertise, and authority of a Board President Quentin Kopp — a life breath away from Feinstein's bur-nished throne. As it stands, there's no one at City Hall — least of all anyone in the Gay community — who can stand up to or talk turkey to Dianne Feinstein.

I feel her Christmas stocking deserves an acerbic lump of



Quentin Kopp — for Board President?

problems of the Board these past two years and partly why district elections were ash-canned. The gang looked less and less like a class act. For that reason — and some less admirable ones, like buying and selling of votes — the top vote-getter used to assume the presidency. In short, the air was clear and the session began minus rancor and ruckus.

It's no state secret the *B.A.R.* has supported Quentin Kopp — just as it has supported Jack Molinari — in this one I think Quentin has demonstrated he has the people's vote, and it would be to Jack's honor to recognize that mandate of the people.

For me a more cogent and pragmatic reason argues we agitate for the top prize to the top vote-getter. Gays are learning — slowly and sorely — that Dianne Feinstein has not lived up to her promises vis a vis the Gay voters who put her over the top. Gays are conspicuous in her administration only by their absence. She turns up for

coal, and that burn would be Quentin Kopp. ■

The High Cost of Being Straight

Among the many costs of traditional wedding festivities, Indonesians face a new and staggering toll on their sexual preference. Potential bridegrooms in Jakarta must deliver 50 rats to the village chief of a western Java district in order to receive permission to wed. *The Indonesian Observer* reports a thriving business developing among enterprising village youngsters willing to act as middle-men. Junior businessmen are retailing the rodents to prospective bridegrooms for 8 cents apiece.

The original quota was intended to help stem a plague of rats in the fields. For those who remain Gay as a mongoose, however, no quota of rats has been reported applicable.

Massachusetts Supreme Court Decides on Gay Rights

The Massachusetts Supreme Court this week declared unconstitutional a law making it criminal to be a "lewd, wanton and lascivious person . . . in speech and behavior."

Edward J. Sefranka was prosecuted under that statute after being arrested by a plain-clothes vice officer. The officer claimed that Sefranka solicited the officer to engage in oral sex. The officer admitted that Sefranka had suggested that the sex act should occur in a private residence. After being convicted, Sefranka appealed to the Massachusetts Supreme Court.

In a unanimous decision, the Supreme Court declared that Sefranka's conviction must be reversed and he must be found not guilty. The Court stated that future use of this statute by police and prosecutors must be limited to solicitations made in a public case which propose the commission of a sexual touching in a public place when there is someone present who may be offended by viewing that conduct.

The National Committee for Sexual Civil Liberties, Massachusetts Civil Liberties Union, and Gay and Lesbian Defenders and Advocates (G.L.A.D.) filed a joint brief attacking the constitutionality of the law. Thomas F. Coleman, co-director of the Litigation Project of the National Committee, expressed great joy when the Clerk of the Supreme Court called to him personally inform him of the decision. "This is another landmark decision in the seemingly never ending battle for equal rights for Gay people. Last year the California Supreme Court declared the lewd conduct law of that state unconstitutional in the *Pryor* decision. The Massachusetts Supreme Court unanimously held that homosexuality, in and of itself, is not a ground for denying a parent the custody of his or her child. These decisions are very encouraging to all of us working to secure legal

rights for Gay people."

There is a similar challenge to a lewd conduct ordinance pending in the Oklahoma Court of Criminal Appeals. A Tulsa ordinance on the subject was declared unconstitutional and the city appealed. The Oklahoma appeals court has been sitting on the case for over 18 months. Coleman stated that he intends to send the Oklahoma court a copy of the California and Massachusetts decisions in a last ditch effort to persuade the Oklahoma court to follow these precedents.

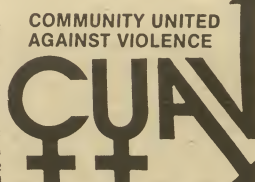
Guess What's Happened to the Minnesota Legislature?

Although the recent elections may have had dismal results for Gays around the country, things are looking good in Minneapolis. Voters there elected the first team of a Lesbian and Gay man into the legislative ranks. Both candidates were supported by the Democratic Farmer Labor Party. Karen Clark won 65 percent of the vote in her district, which includes a low-income portion of south-central Minneapolis. This will be her first term in the Minnesota House of Representatives.

Allan Spear returned to the State Senate for a third term with a 70 percent vote from his district. Spear's district includes the University of Minnesota.

Both legislators are planning to work for a statewide Gay rights bill.

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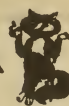
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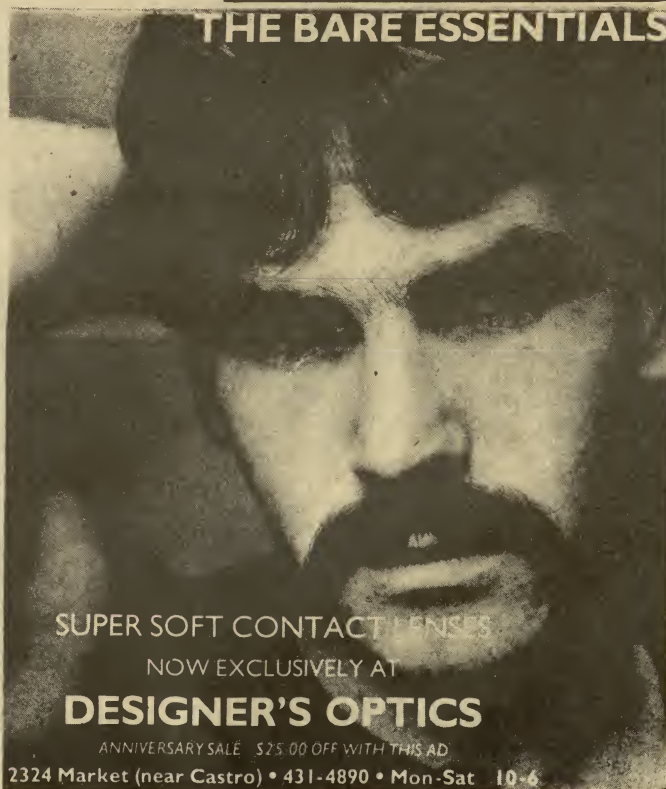
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Media Queen

Death of an Angel

by Konstantin Berlandt

When an angel is murdered, can the mass media relate?

The news media are in general dedicated to overcoming any catastrophe — the more horrendous, the bigger the headline — but life goes on, the evening edition comes out.

No matter how many died — the more the merrier — reporters and editors nearly get up and dance when any kind of big story comes jingling over the wire-copy machines.

That two-inch type can be pulled from mothballs, page artists may demonstrate their latent talents. Reporters at cocktail parties forever after will relate, "I was standing right in front of the machine when 12 bells started ringing and that story came across the wires." Marilyn, Kennedy, King were dead; Janis, Jimi, Morrison; Elvis, Mae, and John. "I almost spilled my coffee."

While the headlines over and over reassured us that, though something were happening, we would survive it.

Re: 3-Mile Island — top story on the six o'clock news, the first five minutes before the first interior ad . . . and none of us sitting in front of our New York City TV sets knew if we would live through the hour,

waiting for the media to tell us . . . Should we evacuate? . . . Can we safely drink the milk in the stores?

"There is no emergency. There is no emergency. . . ." the reporter's confidence in the next story tried to maintain: someone shot up in Harlem.

Of the entire daily media in the area, only KPFA's Pacifica sister station in the Big City, WBAI, converted to a self-determined and impromptu Conelrad fulltime information-dispensing channel on the radio for the period of the crisis, though the government officially recognized no such state of emergency, and the *New York Times* quoted soothing "experts." The next wind from the west might blow out the entire Northeast Corridor, none of the headlines recognized, except listener supported 'BAI, one of Lennon's now posthumous foundation's beneficiaries, along with bullet retardant vests promised the police — something for everyone.

When Kennedy was shot, I remember where I was, what topic the papers were completely full of all week, while the nation stopped and sat down in front of their TV sets to watch the drums beat out a funeral march down Pennsylvania Avenue — hand-

holding the nation till Lyndon Johnson was securely in the White House and in the name of the dead liberal President declared a War on Poverty to meet the needs of the inner-city rioters protesting their mass induction into the War on Vietnam.

"Some 5,000, mostly Gays, holding candles marched from the Castro to City Hall this evening in mourning for the two city officials assassinated there this morning. . . ."

The probable new Mayor, her hair done in ashes, was on the steps to greet us, along with singers Meg Christian and Joan Baez, and reassure both city and nation that everything was okay — we would survive.

Two years later, since the *Chronicle's* Scott Newhall in February and CBS again in April called her a fag-lover, the now Mayor has hardly been seen in our neighborhoods — except twice last week:

First to light the Castro Christmas tree welcoming the season's dollars to the area that will eventually filter into local banks, members of the Gay Band backing up Santa on a roving cable car shouting to tourists, "Shop the Castro!" — and Advocate Experience supplying the Elves.

Second, the Mayor was seen last week speaking to the just-right-of-liberal Alice B. Toklas Gay/Lesbian Memorial Democratic Club, whose members she assured should be safe to walk the streets at night; harassment of the Jaguar Book Store was just a not-to-be-repeated mistake (like 'Nam); and from now on the Dan Whites would be out in their blue drag or incognito "protecting us" — welcomed onto Castro by, among others, Demian Damm, CUAV Project Director and *B.A.R.* columnist in the last issue.

When Elvis died, I was coming down in an elevator at One Market Plaza, and someone in the elevator who had heard about it on the radio said it made her feel old. On the street there was a banner headline, and even a good word put in from a sleazy President Carter, who had never been seen disco dancing and hardly ever visibly experiencing the movement in music at all.

A King who had turned America into a love affair — shaken his hips at the people — commented on in death by a President who could feel lust only through the luster of the pages of *Playboy Magazine*.

Average telly fare was interrupted by a bulletin that rang like another bullet through the former President's buried heart: John Lennon had been shot in front of his New York City apartment building . . . condition at first unknown.

The *Chronicle* the first morning after the tragedy played it like an average top story —

low-key banner and two columns down the right side of the page, with picture of something else in the four columns to the left.

Their "What's Inside" index, usually carried above the paper's logo and top headline, was bumped for the banner head, which was more than the demise of Ms. West had meant, the woman who had sliced through the Victorian knot of hypocrisy around the throat of sexuality.

She was as unappreciated by those in charge of getting out the early home edition from 5th & Mission Streets as the assassinated singer, whose late-breaking story hardly merited tearing up the already mostly set front page.

No one in charge down there thought of remaking the entire front page as Lennon's smiling mug with a black border, pull the Christmas centerfold ad for that only—"underground"—press-printed nude of John and Yoko pre-dating Burt Reynolds in *Cosmopolitan*, fill in the rest of the pages like a lyric songbook of the old Beatles, John growing, changing, illustrating words to his songs that had spoken the spirit of a decade that had laughed at the American Way of Life as seen on CBS and promised by their ads.

The media never had and now never would hear him sing, so eager they were to serve up his head to a President-elect decrying such violence, while his wife checks the revolver under her pillow, there to protect her lacquered hair. John — "All You Need Is Love" — the Baptist/Nancy — "Let them eat food stamps" — Antoinette: Which one has the Toni?

I do not intend indicting individual reporters. Some of my best friends work for the straight press and are as sensi-

tive as you or I, loved the Beatles just as much.

But the media selects for those who are willing to cover up their hearts while covering the news — such a school of "objectivity" the very obvious antithesis to our attitude of heart declaration and its imperative for rescuing life on Planet X.

"Just the facts, ma'am," a jaded Jack Webb indulgently prompts an hysterical witness on a weekly episode of "Dragnet," the investigator so distant from this raw emotion that he devotes his life to a prison solution to human problems.

And it is no coincidence that even several decades later there is hardly an open faggot or dyke among the establishment press corps, or de-selection no more an anti-Gay conspiracy than the Castro Station bouncer accused of keeping Randy Kikukawa from entering the bar on the evening of July 3 was practicing racism.

As effectively as an open-toed shoes ban kept women out of Gay discos, and as neatly as the San Francisco Police Department's until recently altered height requirement discouraged many Asian, Latino and women applicants. Randy was just not butch enough, that's all, for the then just re-modeled bar trying to establish itself as the hunkiest hangout on the block — racist stereotypes of "subservient populations" interwoven with our fantasies of masculinity, whose essence may, in fact, be an imperialist master, hiding the heart, shedding no tears — precisely the criteria used to exclude us from Fourth Estate power of the press.

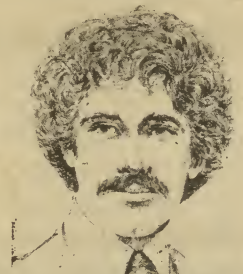
The resulting media prejudice can be summed up by their recent burial of John Lennon, archangel of late millennium hope, between ads and without a prayer. ■

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Louis Abolafia (center) and Perry Mann (in t-shirt), producers of the Exotic-Erotic New Years Eve Ball at California Hall, 625 Polk Street, 8pm to 2am. Bonnie St. Eiger (L) will be the MC, and Feather (R) is "belle of the ball."

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B.A.R.

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Politics & Poker...

by Wayne Friday

FLASH: Harvey Milk Gay Democratic Club President Bill Kraus to become Harry Britt's Administrative Aide next month...

CDC News: Wally Albertson, retiring CDC President who is running for re-election in April to the L.A. Community College Board and is expected to win, will immediately start a statewide campaign for Lt. Governor in 1982... San Francisco Lia Belli to run for President of the California Democratic Council, with heavy backing from politically active Gays and Lesbians...

And one more time — I do wish backers of Paul Hardman would take his gaudy campaign signs down along 18th Street sometime before Christmas... attention to Supervisor Britt's staff: the Harvey Milk sign on the Harvey Milk Recreational Arts Building at 50 Scott Street has been missing for months now... LA Police Chief Darryl Gates to announce any day now that he will take a leave of absence to run against Tom Bradley for Mayor in next April's election in that city (Bradley should win this one in a breeze; Bradley will then begin to set up a statewide organization to seek the Democratic nomination for Governor)... *The National Enquirer's* current edition carries a big story on Ron Reagan Jr., stating that the "real reason" young Reagan got married was "to throw water on false or persistent rumors that Ron was Gay"... has anyone seen David Scott since the election?... Quentin Kopp will marry Maura Sikaters the last week in January... Gerry Parker and Warren Hinckle in a heated conversation at the N'Touch last week... there are at least 4,146 confirmed bigots left in this city (that's how many votes Marjorie Martin got for Supe last month)... LA City Attorney Burt Pines, who has many friends in the Gay community here, will retire from that job... Nancy Pelosi slated to become Chairperson of the State Demo Party in January — and former California Party Boss Chuck Manatt of LA is expected to be the next National Democratic Party Chairperson... rumors abound that Dave Roberti, the new State Senate Pro Tem will open a San Francisco office...

for the new College Board will follow in the Green Room of the War Memorial Building... incidentally, a cocktail party/auction to help retire Wolfred's campaign debt will be held on January 23 at Forest Lodge (call 552-0083 for info)... with his elevation to Speaker, Willie Brown quickly became one of California's most powerful politicians...



Assembly Speaker Willie Brown

May I wish the happiest Holiday season ever to: Milton and Carolene Marks; the Brothers Burton; Assemblymen Agnos and McCarthy; Mayor Dianne Feinstein; Jim Reilly and his sister Carolyn; Speaker Brown and the Governor, too; Supervisors Britt, Molinari, Kopp, Hutch, Renee, Ward, Silver, Walker, and newly-elected Hongisto and Nelder; Gwenn Craig; Anne Kronenberg; Bill Krause; Donald Cameron Scott; Paul Lorch and Bob Ross; Tony Perry; Tom Ammiano; Tim Wolfred; Randy Alfred; Julie Tang; David Scott; John Bardis; Mike Hennessey and his Beverly; Scott Smith; Frank Robinson; Paul Bentley; Jim Bonko; my friends at the N'Touch, the White Swallow, the Gangway, and the Kokpit; Herb Caen and his assistant Jesse Hamlin; Chief Con Murphy; Jim Rivaldo and Dick Pabich; and so many others. 1980 has not been the best of years for many of us, but somehow I know the new year will be better. The merriest of Christmases and the best of New Years to everyone...

Vet Center Outreach

Says veterans' counselor Charles Gallman, "Are you troubled by 'flashbacks' and nightmares, and have low stress tolerance, as a result of your Viet Nam experience? We at the Vet Center can help. All information is strictly confidential."

The Vet Center, located at 1708 Waller Street (386-6726) in San Francisco, is making an effort to reach out to Gay Viet Nam veterans.

The Center's brochure says, "At the Vet Center, you can expect help from friends who will treat you with respect and understanding. Most of our counselors are Vietnam-era veterans, and many are combat veterans. They are also professionals who specialize in guidance counseling, social work, and psychology. So, they not only know the problems first-hand, they also have the skills to help you solve them. The only requirements are that you served on active duty between August 4, 1964 and May 7, 1975; and that you ask for our help before October 1, 1981"



Gay Community College Board member Tim Wolfred.

Tim Wolfred, newly elected member of the Community College Board, will be sworn in, along with other members, at a ceremony on January 6 at 5pm in the City Hall Rotunda, with Speaker Willie Brown doing the honors; a reception

LA Bath Raid

The Legend of Ed Davis Lives On

Los Angeles Police Department officials have found themselves in hot water following November's raid on a private party at the Hollywood Spa. An angry City Council member, Peggy Stevenson, decried the continuing harassment of Gays in a series of hearings concerning deployment of LAPD officers to Gay establishments.

She was backed by Joel Wachs, 2nd District council member, in her accusations that the LAPD wasted taxpayers' money on the raid by diverting officers from fighting crime in the streets to harassing Gays. Wachs was incredulous that officers spent three hours at the Spa when they could have accomplished their stated purpose in ten minutes after entering the bath house and noting alcoholic beverage and dancing violations. He claims the police officers should have simply cited the owners and left the establishment.

Captain Jerry Feinberg admitted under questioning by council members that officers had purchased tickets in advance at the PX in West Hollywood. Claims that no formal plan for the raid had been drawn up were undermined by an admission that Hollywood Division officers had called the City Attorney's office the day before the raid to ask for a ruling on what constituted lewd conduct. Feinberg also failed to mention the raid when speaking to members of the Gay community the night prior to the police assault in a discussion concerning the rising wave of crime directed against Gays throughout Los Angeles. Feinberg claimed: "That meeting was about a serious subject — homicides — and the Hollywood Spa operation did not come to mind. The Hollywood Spa had a low priority in my mind."



Supervisor Harry Britt (L) — still suffering from his recent wounds — attends a Gay campaign debt fundraiser at the home of B.A.R. publisher Bob Ross (C). Joining them is Laura Stevens. (Photo by Rink)

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Last Opening Of Chrysalis Gallery

by Konstantin Berlandt

Richard Stoots, at the request of the Chrysalis Gallery's owner, took his painting of masturbation called "A Loss of Privacy" out of the front window at 451 Castro the day after his "world . . . of paintings, graphics and sculptures" opened December 6, a show which closes along with the gallery two days before the end of the year to make way for a cookie shop.

The owner of the last gallery on Castro, according to Stoots, feared, even in the abstracted perspective of the artist, the theme of his painting — hard cock in hand — was too clear to the passing pedestrian and might induce a rock through the window.

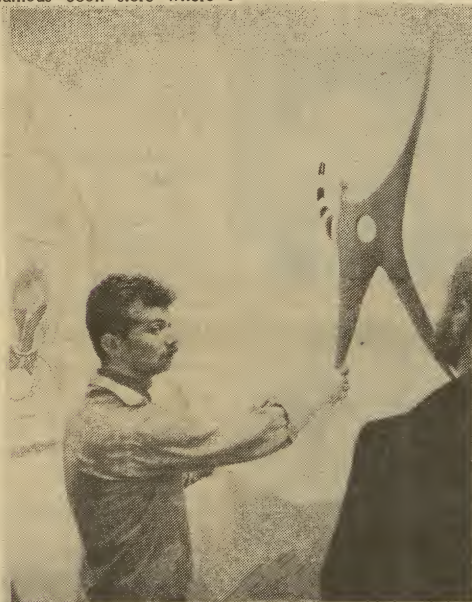
I must have passed that window a thousand times and never glanced past the gray of its very traditional taste till Richard, a frequent visitor to the infamous book store where I

work, invited me to his opening. I came as an eager guest and so took the time to look.

Stoots is not traditional — not Manet, Rembrandt or Ming. A cross among Chagall, Dr. Seuss, your last acid trip, and "The Wizard of Oz," but I am not an art critic.

I only noted that if the gallery had displayed anything so catching in the year I've lived in the neighborhood, I might have been more tempted to come in and check it out. Not that I would buy anything — I'm not the type — but word spreads, and a crowded room attracts more people into it.

You may kiss Richard's until December 29 at the Chrysalis, or thereafter perhaps around the corner in the dark of the Jaguar's back room, a Stoots' checkerboard path between the two commercial orifices.



Richard Stoots at his art.

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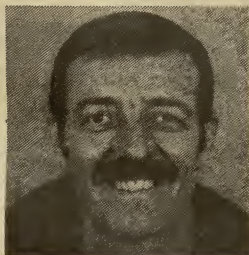
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Letters...

A UNION STATION TO AVOID

★ Finally it's my turn to write one of these letters. I've started several, finished none, always getting swallowed in the lethargy that follows an affront by an irrational, foaming-at-the-mouth homophobe.

On a Sunday evening, November 16, I pulled into the 76 Union station on Franklin, at Pine. I was in a calm, preoccupied state — no impatience, no attitude, nada. Two cars were already hooked to the pumps, so I pulled up close to one of them in order to reach the rear hose. I noticed that there was only one attendant working (blond, approx. 5'9", 145 lbs. — described briefly in case you happen to meet him there), so I hopped out to start the pump. This guy immediately barked out with a scowl on his face, "Just wait 'till he's through!" (Meaning the car in front of mine.) His anger took me by surprise, so much so that I assumed he must have thought I was trying to push my way up to the pump in front to hurry them up. Without any returned aggravation, I told him, "I want to use this back hose here. It can reach my car." Thinking that I'd explained myself clearly, I reached for the hose, at which point he again barked, "Get your hand off that!" This unwarranted hostility confused me so much that I found myself fumbling with the mechanism, trying to start and stop it at the same time. He shouted, "Can't you read the sign?" indicating to me a large, clearly printed sign declaring "No Self Service." I simply hadn't seen it, as I was occupied in thought as I drove up. At this point, I realized that he was just another stranger in a rotten mood, looking for a participant; I was getting angry, too, and replied bitterly, "I thought I was doing you a favor!" His reply: "I don't need any favors!"

"Well, I don't need any gas!" Up until this point, the situation was commonplace and unnoteworthy, but what followed made it worth recounting.

"All right, FAGGOT, get out of here; we don't need you, either!" He used that word with such venomous force that its impact sent me reeling. Completely taken off guard, I stopped dead in my tracks, halfway to the car. My response in such situations is to take a few seconds to seethe, to acknowledge the volcano of anger mounting within, and to let this show on my face. But in order to grasp a tether to sanity, I calmed myself and said, "If you're having a bad day, that's one thing; but there's no reason for you to call me a faggot." At this his anger grew into a sort of raving madness, irrational and flighty as he chortled, "See, faggot, you can't even hide it; you thought I couldn't tell I knew you were a faggot! You can't hide it!" By now I was so stunned that I can't remember the rest of his tirade. Let it suffice to say that he revealed the ugliest regions of a homophobe's heart. I drove out of the station thoroughly shaken, with more than the gas gauge on empty.

Like many of us who harbor an internal fury, a Gay rage that refuses to be repressed any longer, I have visions of burying the hatchet in that empty blond head, to once and for all recompense blood for the rivers of Gay blood that have flowed at straight hands. Don't worry . . . just letting off steam. There are more civilized ways of responding to such an affront. I suggest that those of you driving down Franklin in need of gas skip this island of insanity and choose a more friendly station. And for those of you who do purchase gas at the "Union," beware of this man who is fueled with blind hatred.

D. Haynes

P.S.: What an inane presumption, that I would want to hide my Gayness and pass for someone like him.

FROM ACCEPTANCE HOUSE

★ Thank you for your excellent help in publicizing the Acceptance House Alumni Association Thanksgiving Dance held at MCC.

We appreciate the great service your newspaper provides in informing readers of our activities.

Patrick Hinrichsen
Public Relations

WELL PLACED THOUGHTS

★ Violence against minority groupings — be they Black, Latino, etc., or homosexual — is obviously on the increase. This summer neo-fascists bombed and terrorized various cities throughout Europe, killing over 30 persons. In this country just last week Klan/Nazi thugs (aided and directed by government agents) were shamelessly acquitted in Greensboro, North Carolina, for the wanton murder of participants in a non-violent de-segregation march. The tactics of both the prosecution and the defense at this trial were disgustingly similar to those of the Dan White farce. In the United States Black people in particular are literally under the gun by cops and Klan alike (who, in many instances, are one and the same). We all know first hand about the violence directed against homosexuals. Is there a common denominator as far as victims are concerned?

Last month I attended the public meeting sponsored by Harry Britt at the Board of Supervisors on the subject of anti-Gay violence. That this "hearing" was a blatant vote-scrounging maneuver was cause enough to disregard it, but it did bring to light the contradictions inherent in the false concept of the "Gay community." As a former supporter of the feminist movement I witnessed the deterioration of that

cause into Earth Goddess revivalist sessions and the self-defeating female separatism which has resulted in the victory of anti-ERA and anti-abortion right wing forces. Women's liberation cannot be achieved through the feminist movement any more than homosexual liberation can be achieved through "Gay liberation" (i.e., homosexual separatism).

Along this line I was dismayed to read your "Viewpoint" (B.A.R., No. 23) stating that homosexuals would gain social equality through the power of financial capital and by remaining a separatist social grouping. This may sound good to landlords, bar owners, and other capitalists, but it means nothing to average working class homosexuals. When it comes to push and shove, self-imposed isolation and even money isn't going to help anybody. Remember, even the wealthiest Jews were put into concentration camps — and their money went to the enemy. I am not suggesting that concentration camps are on the immediate agenda in this country, but I do disagree with the ideas expressed in your article on this question.

The interests of the homosexual capitalist are not my interests. The wealthy person is usually not exposed to the type of street violence a working class (by "working class" I mean one who is employed by a capitalist) person is subject to. The rich have cars and don't have to walk the streets or ride MUNI. Yet real estate speculation in this city has contributed tremendously to the hate vented on homosexuals by minority and other lower class groups who have been evicted from their traditional neighborhoods. Five years ago I was never afraid of going to the Mission. During those five years the building I live in has been sold four times, three of which involved speculators who would easily be identified as "Gay" (and who came off phony as hell). Each time the rent went up, Up & UP. Many minority families cannot afford the price of this type of blatant speculation and are forced out. If the speculator him/herself is not "Gay," then 5 to 1 the person who can afford to move in is. It doesn't sit too well with the people who have been forced out. The parents blame Gays for their economic dilemma; their kids hear it and have another reason to "kill queers." Unfortunately, the real estate speculators have their Porsches and Mercedes to protect them from the street and the fruit of their greed. I have to take my chances and carry a knife. If I could afford one I would carry a gun; for although I understand and sympathize even with certain classes of attackers, I am not a masochist, nor am I crazy enough to rely on whistles or the SFPD.

So the power of "Gay money" is both illusory and a source of the problem itself. But most important should be the understanding of the common denominator factor in regard to sexual and also right wing violence — all the victims, be they Black, Latino or homosexual, represent a threat to the status quo in the brains of the mindless attackers. The little guy can't get at the bosses and bureaucrats who have caused his frustrations, so he kicks the fellow just below on the social ladder — the white necktie shoots "niggers," the lower class punks stab a Gay. The problems of violence engendered by the status quo are not going to be solved by the self-servers of the status quo — the Britts, the Feinsteins, the cops, and the real estate speculators. The problems of social violence can only be solved by a united working class based on total equality. I am a homosexual, yes, but one's sexuality should be experienced within the context of the total person. As a member of the human race I have to stand up as a whole person in order to defend myself. I cannot rely on mis-leaders to do that for me because they cannot and will not.

The only effective political action of self-defense for any working class group is to abandon the Republicans, Democrats, and bar-oriented mentality and to struggle for a working class party. The sell-out Black, Latino and "Gay" leaders will stick with the status quo. The people who are really sincere in the fight for human liberation will go with the working class — and they will go as a whole person, not as a separatist.

Despite these remarks, I do appreciate B.A.R. as an alternative press which is open to diverse intellectual exchange — unlike the other papers in town which come off as simply reactionary and/or ridiculous. I am encouraged to hope that your apparent dismay with Harry Britt is a further step toward something a little more than blind faith in a self-enclosed "Gay community."

Alexander Larsen

P.S.: Don't get me wrong — I love my homosexual brothers — but there are other men (and women) in the world too!

ED. NOTE: Beautifully argued piece . . . with such talent, why haven't you been able to buy your way beyond the working class . . . ? I have long since ceased to accept that inherent in the "man with the hoe" lies nobility. Gays have had no more luck with the proletariat than they have had with the bourgeoisie (for all too many owe their "betta's"). Our samenesses we take for givens — as Gay polemicists it's the differences we're promoting. The B.A.R. never promised anyone a rose garden . . . P. Lorch

A BEAU GESTE

★ I want to thank you for your kindness at the Beaux Arts Ball. It is always a pleasure to be with you, and I look forward to being with you on other occasions.

Milton Marks

P.S.: Thank you very much for your endorsement in the B.A.R.

*Happy Holidays
To All*




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Toys for Tots Benefit

The Interlude, 4942 Stevens Creek Blvd. in San Jose, will hold a Toys for Tots Benefit on Saturday, Dec. 20, starting at 9pm. The \$8 donation includes a show by the famous Diamond Peacock Follies. Hosts for the evening will be Diamond John, Bill Gates (Emperor II of San Jose) and Aka Tonna (Empress IX de San Jose). There will be two shows — 9:00 and 11:30pm. Other stars in the show will include San Francisco entertainers Gina Rios, Shelly Rios, and Connie. Call 244-2829 for ticket information.

New Political & Cultural Group In Sacramento

A new group calling themselves La Semilla has formed in Sacramento. The group's function will be to create a Sacramento political and cultural center. Long-range plans include a socialist school and unity for the many diverse groups in the Sacramento area. La Semilla has a building available for rental space, and remodeling is in the planning. Those who wish to support La Semilla or rent space in the building may contact Karen Kennedy at (916) 442-2198.

Jose's 60th in Hayward

Jose Sarria, Empress I de San Francisco, held his 60th birthday party at Big Mama's in Hayward this past weekend. On hand were many well wishers. The buffet outdid most buffets in San Francisco and was

done by volunteers, customers of Big Mama's, headed by Ken Pearson. Jose did an impromptu auction, with most of the funds going to the Hayward Equal Rights Organization.

AN OPEN LETTER TO THE WHITE HORSE INN

We, the men of the Berkeley Gay Men's Health Collective, are concerned over numerous reports of discriminatory acts, attitudes and, presumably, policies against women and blacks at the White Horse Inn in Oakland. Several of the reports involved direct personal witnessing of events or conversational remarks by the former manager. We understand this man is no longer managing the bar and that the ownership has issued statements to the community promising an egalitarian admissions and management policy. We support these statements by the ownership and wish to express our strong opposition to what has seemingly happened at the White Horse in the past and to any recurrence of this in the future.

Mindful of the current political turn toward the Right with legal advances in Gay and Lesbian rights threatened or at least stalled for the next four years, we think it is the height of self-destructive folly to allow sexist and racist attitudes and practices to divide and poison our beleaguered community fighting for its basic rights of citizenship. Beyond such tactical considerations, such discrimination is morally and humanly wrong and has no place among people who know first hand the evils of prejudice and discrimination in their day-to-day lives as Gay people. Third World Gay men are brothers; Lesbian women are sisters: that's the bottom line.

We are pleased that the White Horse has at last been acquired by Gay ownership. We appreciate the bar's support of the community through such events as the fundraisers held there for the Pacific Center. We take this as evidence that the ownership recognizes that the historic role of the Gay bar is more than just another commercial establishment — it is also a functional community center. The White Horse has been such a place for the Berkeley-North Oakland area for nearly a decade. Women and ethnic people of color have traditionally been welcome at this bar. Women's Night there is an institution. New ownership needs to plan its changes in ways that honor these traditions and respect the needs of the community in which it is located.

Lupine Loughborough
Coordinator
Berkeley Gay Men's Health Collective

Empress II Lady Carla & Emperor II Chuck
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FOURRAGERE ABJURED

Correction! Shawn, of Lancers, was titled Gay Deputy Sheriff II of Oakland. Doing the honors were Gay Sheriff I Jim and Gay Deputy Sheriff I John-John. It was a brief ceremony, witnessed by such notables as Mary (Lake Lounge), Gay Mayor of Oakland: Tony Valentine, King Father of Alameda County; Randy (aka Cha Cha); Nova Lei (she and her spouse are candidates for King & Queen of Hearts in '81); sahibab Lola; Crotch Face; Chris (G.O.A.L.); and scores of others, including Suzie and Sal! Sal!!!!

A "jail" was set up and dollars were paid for arrests, and more dollars paid for releases. The monies went for a good cause, however, as G.O.A.L. was the chosen recipient. Yours truly was "arrested" twice. Nova Lei bailed me out the first time. Harumph... NO ONE cared enough a second time to bail out the very best... HELP!!! I'm still in there! My husbands are getting worried (aren't they?)!!!

Seriously, reader, it was a fun evening and the champagne, fried chicken, potato salad, and cake added to the festivities.

Come on, Shawn, "fess up"! This IS your second title, isn't it?

METIER PERENNAIALIZED

At the latest gathering of bar owners, new faces were present and original faces were absent for VARIOUS reasons. Represented were four bars from Oakland (two repeats), two bars from Hayward, and one (and only?) bar from Walnut Creek. Similar problems and concerns were discussed, and about the only concrete conclusion reached was that there needs to be more communication and cooperation among ALL the East Bay bars.

One concern that keeps cropping up is the problem (!) of patrons who come into an East Bay bar, cash a check and MAYBE have a drink, take the money and go to San Francisco. Talk about rubbing salt in the wound! The city gets the money and the "community" holds the paper! "If the shoe fits, wear it"... and all the bar owners are aware of those who do just that.

If they love the city so much, why don't they cash their checks IN THE CITY????????

TEMPUS FUGIT

Hardly seems possible that the HUB in Walnut Creek is four years old, but they celebrated that anniversary last Tuesday! The place was packed with well wishers and the indestructible John held

forth all through the night. I can't believe how many Schnapps he consumed, but his breath will be kissing sweet for four more years!

Much success to the Hub, and for those of you on BOTH sides of the Bay who haven't ventured out through the tunnel, now is the time. And when you go, here's a hint... challenge John to a game of Liar's Dice! He CAN'T resist!!!!

ANOTHER SEASON!

Even though the Holidays are upon us, it's not too early to start planning for that action-filled evening, the "Red and White Ball," on February 21, 1981. It's the third annual, and there are many contestants running for King and Queen. All proceeds and contributions go to Children's Hospital Medical Center Foundation of the East Bay.

Yours truly, Outstanding Heart II of Oakland 1980, will be announcing the Outstanding Heart III of Oakland 1981. Who will he or she be? You won't know if you don't go to the Ball!

WESTERNEERS AND WHEELS

For those of you who like to roller skate, or watch those who do just that, the White Horse has a bus every Tuesday that leaves at 9pm for Skate World in El Sobrante. The bus returns around midnight, and the cost is a mere \$5.25, including admission to the skating rink! Also, Tuesday is their half-price beer night!

Also at the Horse, every Wednesday night they feature Linda Lane and the Western Electric Band from 9 until midnight. There are lots of us who want to dance to "western" but don't know how... so, from 7 to 9pm free lessons are given there by Charlie Bradley.

If Wednesday nights aren't enough western for you, every Sunday from 7 to 11pm the White Horse has "Shit Kickin' Music" by the Rodeoyodelers.

Polish up your boots, wash and iron your bandanas, and

shrink your Levis (am I showing my age?)! Leave your horse at home, but bring your fun to the White Horse!

VIVAT!

Many congratulations to Val and Marge (Jubilee) on their many years of celebrating their Union of Love. You two are an example for all Gay couples just starting out. May you continue together for many, many more years.

SOLACE!

I don't know to whom to offer condolences, but I think Roy Plumber is no longer with us... at least we haven't discussed one another in months! You don't suppose... do you????????

MORTIFICATION!!!

So... I was asked... so I exposed... and NOT ONE person even questioned my expose! Doesn't anybody read (and understand) anymore? Why should I risk my column by printing gossip if no one even comments on it? I'm referring to the last issue where I put in print that one local bar reluctantly assumes that systematized monitored capability is the ONLY recourse to parallel reciprocal mobility... and NO ONE picked up on it. Harumph!!!!

SOLICITATIONS

Hear ye, all who read this rhyme. Applaud our pubs we offer thee. Partake of booze 'most any ol' time. Potables at Berry's and the Jubilee. Yes, and more fun at Bench & Bar.

Newest on the scene, Ollie's is here. Eager to serve, with a lot for your car; White Horse and Revol both offer good cheer.

You'll also enjoy Lake Lounge and Lancers. Each of our bars pushes its wares. All year 'round for drinkers and dancers. Restaurants or taverns, we'll ease your cares!

Chances are, if you don't GIVE in Eighty-One, you'll probably wind up with a total of none!

My smile is my second name... where is yours????

Did you wait too long to look for the last issue? SUBSCRIBE TO THE B.A.R.

East Bay Singers Sought

The Temescal Gay Men's Chorus is now forming in the East Bay area. Tenors, basses and baritone are needed. Some choral or musical background is preferred, but not a necessity. This choir may be the first step in the formation of a network of musical organizations serving the communities of the East Bay. For information and auditions contact Charles Baker, 654-0604 evenings.

You're Not Alone in Redding

Redding, CA

A new social Gay support group is now forming in the Redding area. Calling itself "You're Not Alone," the group will be mixed — singles, couples, males and females.

For further information call Anita (not Bryant) at (916) 244-1763, or write Y.N.A., Box 218, Bella Vista, CA 96008.

ELAINE W. WALLACE

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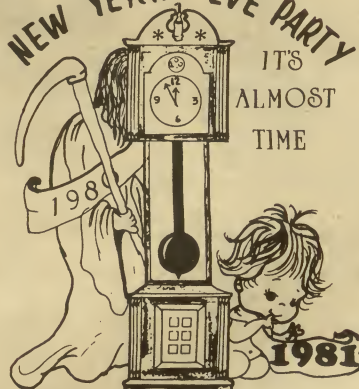
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Costume Benefit for A.C.I.E.

Emperor II Chuck Sheppard and Empress II Lady Carla of Alameda County will present "A Night in Outer Space," a benefit for A.C.I.E., on January 1, 7pm, at the Lake Merritt Hotel, 1800 Madison in Oakland. Music will be by Sounds Ahead, a popular local group. There will be a \$500 first prize for the best original male or female costume fitting the theme of Outer Space. Donation: \$5.

New Year's Eve in Modesto

The Brave Bull, 701 S. 9th in Modesto, will again hold their popular New Year's Eve fun Wednesday, Dec. 31. This party will be held in

party will be held in conjunction with "Little Stevie's" birthday celebration. Little Stevie is a popular Modesto celebrity and bartender at the Brave Bull. Tickets for the celebration are \$10 and include an open bar, buffet, drawings and prizes, New Year's party items, live entertainment, and a champagne toast at midnight. You may write to the Bull for tickets or call (209) 529-6712.

1981 Australian Mr. Leather Contest Gets Underway

The Sydney Star, official sponsor of the 1979 and 1980 Australian Leather Contest announced this week the dates for the 1981 Australian Leather Contest.

Preliminaries for this third annual event will begin on March 1 and end on March 15.

The 1981 National Final will be held on Saturday, March 21, 1981, during a weekend of parties, special events, excitement and fun.

Last year's winner, Patrick Brookes, traveled to Chicago for the 2nd International Leather Contest and returned to Australia with the International title firmly in his grasp. In a glittering ceremony held at the plush Hotel Radisson, Patrick competed against contestants from throughout the United States. His selection by the judges as the man who best represents and reflects the international leather community was reported throughout the world.

The winner of the 1981 Australian Leather Contest will receive a free trip to Chicago, to compete in the 3rd International Leather Contest.

Letters...

DELAYED REACTION

Dear "Writer":

I am responding to your query in the B.A.R. of June 19, 1980. I'm not sure I could be any help to you in terms of extensive experience of VD. My history with it has been short but thoroughly miserable. Several months ago I contracted what is diagnosed as lymphogranuloma venereum. Two things interest me now about that: first, that even a book like the Advocate health guide devotes only about three lines to the one I've had (admittedly not a particularly common VD), indicating that treatment is by medication — not indicating any of the things my internist, an infectious disease specialist with considerable experience treating VD in the Army, informs me of, principally that once treatment is begun and the course of the infection checked, it is likely to be a year before the LGV is gone; secondly, I've been interested by the fact that several of my bouts with VD treated symptomatically and never actually diagnosed have heavily decreased my likelihood of being able to insure myself.

I am also a writer, more of fiction than non-fiction. For some months now I have thought that it becomes necessary for someone to present to the gay community a clear picture of what is going on regarding them and the VD situation. The beginning of the Advocate health book has a rundown on some of the facts concerning the inadequate attention paid by government health agencies to the problem. One of the things which becomes clear to me is that in the future gay people will have to pursue not only their civil rights, but also their health rights — and that this is not clear to everybody else has to do with such things as guilt and shame about VD.

My hope would be that you are engaged on a grand task which would take in these areas of concern — which would mean that I wouldn't have to undertake work in the field myself. Consequently my question to you is simple: what are you doing?

Carter Wilson
Santa Cruz, CA

CALL TO GAY CHRISTIANS

* We have gone through a national election which has been a setback to gay rights. The media has made much of the influence of the far right fundamentalist Christian political movement. We now hear of "hit lists" for proposed opposition to liberal politicians, some of the greats of current American politics, who James Robinson, Jerry Falwell, Christian Voice, Moral Majority and others want to see defeated in the next congressional election; and they will be devoting their energy, time, and enormous financial backing to this purpose.

Unfortunately, they have been successful in having the gay community equate right wing politics with Christian fundamentalism. The reason for this is that many born-again evangelical gay Christian fundamentalists have been afraid or reluctant to stand up for their liberal political beliefs as well as for their gay lifestyle. I believe it is time for all gay Christians to come out of their closets and make their voices heard for gay rights and show support for the liberal Democratic politicians who have done so much in the past few years for the gay cause.

During my own years in San Francisco, when I was on the administrative staff of the Jews for Jesus organization, I was ordered by Moishe Rosen, leader of the Jews for Jesus, to absolutely avoid any contact with the gay community. Nevertheless, I joined the Metropolitan Community Church, spoke up for the

gay community whenever the opportunity arose, opened my home to gay street people in need of a place to stay, and thought I was doing what I could for the gay community. But as I look back on it, I should have been far more vocal and outspoken in support for gay rights in general, and gay oriented politicians in specific. I urge my fellow evangelical born-again Christians to unite in a positive way to combat Moral Majority and promote the advancement of liberal American politics. God is for us! If we don't stand firm for our rights... who will?

Rev. Ken Debus
Port Charlotte, Florida

AND ALSO TO THE GAY COMMUNITY

Ed Paulson
23981 Mission Blvd.
Hayward, CA

Dear Ed,

On behalf of the Golden Bay Chapter of the Muscular Dystrophy Association, I would like to thank you, your friends and the Gay Community for your continued support. Without the help of your many friends, "Jerry's kids" would not have had all the services that we can now provide them.

Thanks again for your many years of support and your loyal friendship.

Sincerely,

Michael A. Castro
District Director

FROM THE SOUTH BAY

* Thank you for your congratulations; Annette and I very much appreciate your thoughtfulness.

I look forward to serving the people of California's Eleventh District and our great nation in the best way possible.

With sincere thanks and best wishes,

Thomas P. Lantos

FOR OLD TIMES

To Konstantin Berlandt:

Congrats, if that's the word, for being the only person in the gay journalism field in S.F. to have the balls to mention Tom McGuire and his death. I personally was blown away, even though I didn't know him and haven't lived in S.F. for five years now. I guess and know that the election of the next Empress is more important to the gay community than the meaning of Tom's death.

If you don't remember me, we've met. I'm a friend of both Morgan Pinney & Pat Brown, also active in GLF and other 60's gay lib trips here and there. I have been living in the country the last five years — three hours east of S.F. in the mountains.

Steve Ginsburg

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Take Highway 24 to Walnut Creek (which turns into 680) — Ygnacio Valley Road off ramp
Right for 5 stop lights, then left on Civic behind 7-Eleven

Portland Opens Center for Gay Counseling

The Town Council Foundation, Oregon's Lesbian/Gay social service organization, this week opened the TCF Service Center which will provide counseling services for the Gay community. Ms. Cherry Hartman was hired to direct the operations of the Center. TCF plans to hire a male co-director by Spring of 1981. Ms. Hartman will work 3/4 time providing group and individual counseling. She will rely heavily on both professional and paraprofessional volunteers and will develop training classes for these volunteers.

Ms. Hartman, a native of Portland, graduated from Lewis and Clark College and Portland State University School of Social Work. She worked for Lutheran Family Services as a counselor, trainer and administrator for eight years before going into private practice. Cherry has had articles published in the *Transactional Analysis Journal* and is

currently working on a book on resolving conflict.

"TCF has been planning and developing the Service Center for over a year now," stated Executive Director Jerry Weller. "Many volunteers from Portland's Lesbian and Gay community have worked countless hours to see this Center open. We are very pleased that an individual as qualified as Cherry will be directing this project. The Center is a milestone in the growth of Oregon's Lesbian/Gay community."

The Center is located in offices adjoining the current TCF and PTC offices. Volunteers are encouraged to call Cherry at TCF, (503) 223-8299, Monday through Friday during regular business hours. Training and counseling programs will be announced throughout January. All counseling programs will be given on a sliding scale fee.

Bay Area Affirmation Group Joins Methodists' Seminars On Homophobia

The pastors of seven churches in the Mid-Peninsula Parish of The United Methodist Church, south of San Francisco, recently organized a series of seminars to explore parishioners' concerns and fears about homosexuality, to demystify the subject and to ponder ways to bring true Christian principles to bear as each person encounters it on an individual basis in his/her daily life.

Members of Affirmation, United Methodists for Gays & Lesbians, were asked to participate in each of the three Wednesday evening meetings which were held in October at Crystal Springs United Meth-

odist Church. Pre-registration through parishioners' individual pastors had been requested. Between 50-60 lay people attended each meeting.

The latest available scientific findings on homosexuality, both from biblical studies and secular research sources, were reviewed during the series. The actual truths learned during the seminars helped to dispel many of the fears previously held.

For more information on this series, please contact Mary Gaddis, P.O. Box 39, Holy City, CA 95026 or Jim Scurlock, 2328 Roosevelt Ave., Richmond, CA 94804.

Lice Outbreaks Worst Ever

New York, NY

"Pubic lice infestation, after steadily increasing for almost two decades in the Gay community, now appears to be reaching epidemic proportions in some parts of the nation," a Pfizer Pharmaceuticals spokesman reports.

"Irrksome, embarrassing and crossing all economic, social and hygienic lines, lice infestation can occur anywhere at any time," he says.

"Body lice have been major disease carriers," said Dr. Rita Wroblewski, medical director of Pfizer's Pfipharmics Division, "but public lice do not carry disease. However, since public lice infestation is commonly transmitted by sexual contact, any patient with public lice should also be checked for other sexually transmitted diseases."

Pfizer distributes RID, a widely used treatment for both public and head lice. RID is available without a prescription and is a well-tolerated medication. There have been a number of clinical studies showing RID to be as effective as a lindane-based prescription product. The RID package also contains an information booklet and a fine-tooth comb to remove dead lice and nits following treatment. The RID comb saves the purchaser the added cost of buying a comb.

The major active ingredient in RID, pyrethrin, has been indicated for human use by the World Health Organization and by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. The concentration of pyrethrin in RID (0.3%) is almost twice that in A-200 Pyrinat (0.165%).

The follow-up to treating the patient should include a thorough washing and drying of all

"Northwest Oasis" Goes to Press

Seattle, WA

The first issue of *Northwest Oasis: A Forum for Gay Culture* went to press last week. The new publication of fiction, poetry and commentary will be available by November 1.

Headlining the fiction selections are two short pieces by Ricky Rankin, recently acclaimed as Seattle's stand-up poet in a performance with the Off the Wall Players. Rankin also won notice for his readings at the 1979 and 1980 Bumbershoot Literary Arts Festival.

Other fiction work is by R. Eckes, Hanker Stone, and R. Rochford Spencer.

Jerah Chadwick and Emily Warn lead a list of ten poets represented. Chadwick was co-organizer of the Gay Writers' Caucus at the 1978 Port Townsend Writers' Symposium and participated in the 1979 Bumbershoot Festival. He is a member of Good Fairy Productions, a cultural collective geared to produce and distribute an album of Charlie Murphy's music. Chadwick's work has appeared in *Gay Sunshine*, *Rolling Stone*, and *The 1980 Yearbook of American Poetry*. His first book of poems, *The Dream Horse*, is forthcoming from Seal Press this fall.

Warn's poetry has been published in *Pigiron*, *The Seattle Times' Poetry Seattle*, *The Seattle Review*, and *The Floating Poetry Gallery*. She says, "For the past six months I have buried my head in morning glory, horsetail, buttercups and other prolific Northwest weeds as a gardener, trying to blank out the graduate writing program at the University of Washington, where I nearly completed an M.A. degree in Creative Writing."

Other poets represented are Stan Henry, Edgar Penn, Johnny Saldana, Daniel-Harry Steward, Maura Davis, Roland Barricklow, Ronald Stewart, and Ed Meadows.

The first issue contains three pieces of commentary: Jeff Sakuma writes on being Asian in the Gay community; Pat Kalafus and Greg Robinson, both of the Seattle Counseling Service for Sexual Minorities, discuss the needs of Gay youth; and Armando Pinera tells about leaving Cuba through interpreter George Price.

Northwest Oasis is available by mail (send \$3 to Oasis, Box 22562, Seattle, WA 98122) and at the Walt Whitman Book Shop in San Francisco.

clothing and bedding that may harbor lice and their eggs. The clothing and bedding should be washed with hot water and dried in a hot dryer for at least 20 minutes. Inanimate objects that can't be laundered or dry-cleaned can be treated with a lice spray such as Pfizer's LI-BAN which kills lice on furniture and carpets and helps break the infestation/reinfestation cycle.

To provide treatment information that can help control the spread of lice infestation, Pfizer Pharmaceuticals has recently launched Operation Hotline. Approximately 40,000 school and public health officials have been advised of the growing lice problem and given the special hotline number.



Merry Christmas & Happy New Year



Bob Ross	Paul F. Lorch	Richard Rubin	George Heymont	Wayne Friday
Gene Earl	Tony Perry	Ron Olthaus	Rink	Adam Block
Philip Campbell	Curtis Ellis	Paul-Francis Hartmann	Frank J. Howell	John Karr
Michael Lasky	A. Marc Leventhal	Marcus Manulis	Nez Pas	Mark Topkin
	Dan Turner		Dick Walters	



The Ever-Growing Bay Area Reporter

A VERY MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A HAPPY AND
PROSPEROUS NEW YEAR TO YOU AND YOURS
FROM THE MANAGEMENT AND STAFF OF THE BAY AREA REPORTER



ENTERTAINMENT

Gay Stage:

THE DEAR LOVE OF COMRADES

Theatre Rhinoceros's Ambitious Failure

by Mark Topkin

THE DEAR LOVE OF COMRADES is a play with songs that originated in London's Gay Sweatshop. The play, by Noel Greig with music by Alex Harding, celebrates the life and loves of Edward Carpenter, a socialist poet, philosopher and Gay Rights advocate in Victorian England. Its presentation is an ambitious undertaking by Theatre Rhinoceros — unfortunately, too ambitious. By the end of the long first act, I found myself fidgeting in my (cramped and very uncomfortable) chair, rather bored and detached from the goings-on onstage. There was nothing to make me want to stay to see the second act.

The play itself suffers on several levels. First of all, Edward Carpenter is not exactly a household name, even among the most avid Gay liberationists; and the play doesn't offer enough initial background information about him to involve me in his life. Secondly, the play contains an overabundance of scenes, many of which are too brief, enigmatic and discontinuous from scenes before and after.

The production itself suffers from overambitiousness. It attempts to create a total Victorian atmosphere complete with regional English dialects, the company comes off sounding authentic, but very wooden and one-dimensional. Only Daniel Osman as Carpenter's working class lover, George Merrill, manages to be loose enough to seem real.



(Left to right) Martin Xero, Daniel Osman, Charles Solomon, and Tom Fleming in THE DEAR LOVE OF COMRADES, Theatre Rhinoceros' holiday musical. (Photo by Rink)

On the plus side, Harding's songs have a breath of originality to them and there were some fine costumes by Lourdan Taylor.

Theatre Rhinoceros overstepped themselves, I think, in choosing to mount THE DEAR LOVE OF COMRADES. While I hope they will not be discouraged from taking risks with different material, I suggest that in the future they take a closer look at the entertainment value of their choices.

The show runs through January 10 at the Goodman Building. Call 776-1848 for information and reservations.



Daniel Osman (L) and Tom Fleming in THE DEAR LOVE OF COMRADES, now through January 10 at Theatre Rhinoceros. (Photo by Rink)

Revue:

CURTAINS UP!

A Bumper Crop of Home Grown Gay Talent

by Mark Topkin

On December 8 and 9, two new local dance troupes, Images of Men and The Bottom Line, were joined by David Kelsey and the Pure Trash Band plus some special guests for two performances of a revue called CURTAINS UP! The show was a total delight, and I hope an encore is planned for those who missed it.

Responsible for the revue was Joseph Taylor, a stunning blond dancer/choreographer with an abundance of creativity and style. Taylor offered a wide range of choreography from his full length 'work-in-progress,' 'Alexander the Great' (a macho, sensual feast) to jazz/punk variations on 'Funkytown.' Clearly standing at the forefront of the other dancers, Taylor was nevertheless surrounded by lots of high energy people on their way up in the dance world.

Additional choreographers and dancers had their moments. Randall Krivonic of Dance Spectrum created and danced a hilarious piece called

'Disturbance' that combined reminiscences of Twyla Tharp and Ballet Trockadero, and Suzy Miller and Shonda Sawyer created a riotous Supremes parody performed by Ms. Miller, Gus Beatman and Jose Corrales.

Another highlight of the evening was baton twirler Joe Poltrone, former star of the Gay Marching Band, who did a comic Superman turn displaying his incredible facility with the baton.

Acts I and III were opened by David Kelsey and the Pure Trash Band, and together they brought down the house with some hot, hot instrumentals. All I can say is more, please!

The mostly Gay audience responded with unabashed enthusiasm to every number which added to the energy of the evening. I'm sure everyone concerned with CURTAINS UP! left the Victoria Theatre feeling elated, which proves once again the adage that the best high is home grown.

Chevy Chase Goldie Hawn Charles Grodin



Neil Simon's SEEMS LIKE OLD TIMES

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-EAST BAY (Cont.)-
Walnut Creek-Festival Cinema
Dublin-Mann 6 Cinema
Vallejo-Cine 21
Antioch-Metro 4
Concord-Solano D/I
-SAN JOSE-
San Jose-Century 22
Campbell-Winchester D/I
Sunnyvale-Sunnyvale D/I

-PENINSULA-
San Mateo-Hillsdale Cinema
Redwood City-Redwood D/I
Palo Alto-Palo Alto Square
-MARIN-
Santa Rosa-Coddington
Sausalito-Marlin Theatre

Ballet:

Two Companies Cracking Nuts At The Opera House

by George Heymont



"That might be your idea of giving head but it sure ain't mine!" One of the many delights in the San Francisco Ballet's production of NUTCRACKER.

Christmas is upon us and believe me: There is nothing more bizarre in the Culture Shock Department than seeing the opening performance of NUTCRACKER back-to-back with Les Ballets Trockadero de Monte Carlo. After the San Francisco Ballet had gracefully turned a nutcracker doll into a child's dream hero, the Trocks came along and slammed full force into a grand piano in their own nut-cracking rendition of YES, VIRGINIA, ANOTHER PIANO BALLET. The house exploded in shrieks of laughter as Mme. Doris Vidanya peeled her limbs off the Bosendorfer.

It was an interesting contrast in dance styles, to be sure. NUTCRACKER is perhaps the most sacred of all ballets. It attracts audiences in cult-worship proportions each December. The Trocks (who have become the great buffoons of classical ballet) also manage to sport impressive point technique. Whereas NUTCRACKER has a tremendous appeal to aspiring ballet dancers and represents every bit of innocence inherent to the art form, the Trocks fulfill the ultimate fantasies of jaded balletomanes. They have taken their physical mastery of

the art and turned it upside-down and inside-out to lampoon the more outrageous balletic conventions as well as have a grand old time for themselves. Their attacks on the ballet world require a high degree of technical skill. I daresay, the Trocks work hard at their art. Sometimes they pound it into the stage floor with a vengeance beyond belief!

Special credit goes to Mme. Tamara Boumdiyeva for her outrageous portrayals of Odette in SWAN LAKE and the Girl in Green in YES, VIRGINIA. Mme. Boumdiyeva mugs her way across the boards in the grand tradition of Gracie Allen and Fanny Brice. She alternated with Zamarina Zamarkova as Marie Taglioni in the infamous Pas de Quatre. Whereas Mme. Boumdiyeva's broad hamming always garners an easy laugh from the audience, it is Mme. Zamarkova's deadly hauteur and pained arthritic expressions which bring down the house.

Nadia Doumiefeyeva and Yuri Smirnov took a devastating swipe at the Bolshoi Ballet with their hyperathletic version of SPRING WATERS. The Trocks then proceeded to pound a stake through Martha Graham's heart with their agonized dancing of THE LAMENTATIONS OF JANE EYRE.

By comparison, NUTCRACKER was a rather tame affair. The San Francisco Ballet



The pas de quatre from SWAN LAKE by Les Ballets Trockadero de Monte Carlo.

went into its annual string of performances with an exuberant, lively corps. The well-polished production sports a new second-act set which allows easier access to the stage. All the delights of a traditional Christmas were present, including Dennis de Coteau's spirited conducting in the pit.

with a clean, precise style. Vest's single-arm lifts were breathtaking. A newcomer this year was Horacio Cifuentes, mugging his way through the Mother Goose variation in a most infectious manner. NUTCRACKER continues through New Year's Eve at the Opera House and is the perfect way to share the holidays with someone you love.

Linda Meyer and Vane Vest danced the final pas de deux



A SIMPLE GIFT FOR COMPLICATED TIMES: A joyful song and a Hallelujah Chorus will resound as the SF Gay Men's Chorus (shown above) and the SF Lesbian & Gay Men's Community Chorus present their choral holiday concerts. The concerts, NOW SING WITH HEARTS AGLOW, will take place on Sunday, December 21, and Christmas Eve, December 24, at 7:30pm at Nourse Auditorium, Hayes and Franklin Streets, in San Francisco. Tickets are \$5 and can be bought at Headlines (Castro, Polk), Main Line Gifts, Amelia's, Old Wives' Tales, Trinity Place, and by mail. For further information, call 864-0326.



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Dress up DECEMBER 30 at 9:00 PM

for an elegant evening of cabaret, featuring complimentary champagne, dancing and appearances by the cast of the award winning Noel Coward Revue "CHAMPAGNE in a cardboard cup..." and a performance by Miss Kitt.

On the following evening, NEW YEARS EVE, join the revelry in your levis with that master of comedy and disguise, MICHAEL GREER. Enjoy solo performances by MS. LYNN ELDREDGE, MR. RICK ROEMER, and MR. SCOTT RANKINE, and dancing in the cabaret.

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25.00 for either evening.
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Pop: Up, Coming & Choice

By Adam Block

MIGHTY DIAMONDS, JOE HIGGS: Top-flight reggae from a few of the originals — no less gutsy for their smooth incantation. The Diamonds shimmer with a gospel glory. Higgs may be the greatest unsung vocalist on the island. A rare treat! (*Old Waldorf*; Dec. 18; 8 & 11pm; \$7.50 adv, \$8.50 day)

TOMMY TUTONE, ST. REGIS: If the headliners didn't turn out to be America's Nick Lowe or a new Tom Petty, they did come up with a glossy pop album and there are still folks who will tell you that they are the ones to watch. Pass the power pop, Clyde. (*Boarding House*; Dec. 18 & 19; 8 & 11pm; \$5)

LLOYDS, STRAP D'ETRO, COWBOYS: The headliners have taken to the Gay community and the affection has been mutual. I don't know from the openers, but their names are funny enough. (*Palms*; Dec. 19; 8pm; \$4)

THIN LIZZY, CODE BLUE, 415: Though the headliners never seemed to deliver on the promise of their summer single, "The Boys Are Back In Town," their new lp is the best of their career. Code Blue didn't turn out to be the new Beatles or even the new Knack, but they did put out a crisp, tough lp and some folks swear they're the next big thing. (*Warfield*; Dec. 19; 8pm; \$7.50/\$8.50 res)

LEWD, NO ALTERNATIVE, IMPATIENT YOUTH: The headliners were founded by one of Seattle's most daring Gay troublemakers. The openers enact a scary brand of fun. (*Mabuhay*; Dec. 20; 11pm; \$3)

SHARON McKNIGHT: The toughly romantic diva of local cabaret plays the goldrush glorydays theater. (*Great American Music Hall*; Dec. 20; 9pm; \$6)

JONOTHAN RICHMAN: This inspirational eccentric treats rock as if it were the stuff of Summer Camp talent shows and makes it work. JR is quirky, perverse, outlandish — and he's got a band... sorta. (*Stone*; Dec. 20; 8pm; \$5.50 adv. \$6.50 day)

KEITH JOE DICK, KINGSHAKES, HOOVERS: The KJD calls himself the rockabilly Romeo. He's from L.A. I call this "Young Talent Night." Take a chance. (*Waldorf*; Dec. 20; 8pm; \$5 adv, \$6 day)

CHEAP TRICK, MICHAEL SHENCKER BAND: The headliners seem to be plummeting fast from their hour in the sun, with reviewers dancing spike-heeled tangos on their new lp. Well, they were a lot of fun once. Shencker is the former lead guitarist from UFO, who were never much fun. (*Oakland Auditorium Arena*; Dec. 21; 8pm; \$9.50 adv, \$11 day)

SAN FRANCISCO GAY MEN'S CHORUS: The Lesbian & Gay Men's Community Chorus will fill the bill, and I can't think of a friendlier show for Christmas Eve. Yes, Virginia... (*Nourse Auditorium*; Dec. 21 & Dec. 24; 7:30pm; \$5)

CULTURE, FREDDIE MCGREGOR: Roots reggae with the headliners, of TWO SEVENS CLASH fame, in from the islands. (*Stone*; Dec. 26; 8 & 11pm; \$6)

FLO & EDDIE: This duo who came to fame as the "Happy Together" boys in the Turtles and did significant time with Frank Zappa are as hilarious as they are gifted. (*Boarding House*; Dec. 26 & 27; 8 & 11pm; \$6)

GRATEFUL DEAD: The Bay Area's house band are back for five shows, and ushering in another new year. Be there or be elsewhere. (*Oakland Auditorium Arena*; Dec. 26, 27, 28, 30, 31; 8pm; \$12.50 adv, \$15 day)

TBA, ROMEO VOID, WOLVERINES, WOUNDZ: I don't care who they chose to headline, the lyrical winning Romeo Void will be worth the price of admission. (*Mabuhay*; Dec. 27; 11pm; \$3)

VAPORS, HUMANS: Ah, those lovely lads will be turning Japanese just as that big ball descends on Times Square. (*Stone*; Dec. 31; 8pm; \$12.50)

JIM CARROLL BAND, CONTRACTIONS: This is the only New Year's Eve show you could lure me to, and I must have seen this group twenty times in the last year. The Catholic boy has given us one of the year's best lps and I'd love to see him stalk, stumble, and reach on the big stage. Wicked gravity indeed. (*Warfield*; Dec. 31; 8pm; \$8.50, \$9.50 reserved)

GEORGE BENSON, AL JARREAU, ANGELA BOFILL: A creamy adult program that should improve with each act, but somehow I can't quite see dropping \$40 for two to spend this evening at the Oakland Coliseum. Bill Graham is betting that not too many will share my reservations. Then again, last year I was standing in the drizzle at midnight — waiting to pay five bucks to get into a queer bar. (*Oakland Coliseum*; Dec. 31; 8pm; \$15, \$17.50, \$20)

BUY EARLY: New York's celebrated black no-wave guitarist James "Blood" Ulmer, who has recently collaborated with Ornette Coleman and Arthur Blythe plays the Stone, Jan. 10... The notorious "Contort Yourself" bad-boy of punk-funk, James Chance will play the same club Jan. 16... Austin's own Joe "King" Carrasco, who ranges from "96 Tears" to Tex-Mex polkas, will arrive at the Old Waldorf Jan. 4. Opening are New York's fabulous Raybeats, who breathe new meaning into instrumental rock.

JOIN UNITED WAY

in its campaign drive now through December 31

You can direct your contribution to Gay Rights Advocates, Legal Foundation for Personal Liberties, Operation Concern, or the East Bay's Pacific Center by using the United Way Donor Option Card.

Please see your representative today.

M.C.C. Christmas

The Metropolitan Community Church of San Francisco, the church of the city's Gay community, plans a series of activities for December:

Wednesday Lunchtime Communion: A brief, formal service of prayer, homily, and eucharist each Wednesday in December, 12:15pm.

Wednesday Morning/Evening Reflection on Christmas: A brief devotional time followed by an hour of listening to Christmas music, making tree ornaments, and sharing with one another about the joys and sorrows of this time of the year; 11am & 7:30pm.

MCC-SF Choir at the Mark: Concert at the Mark Hopkins Hotel Lobby December 22, 7:30pm.

Christmas Eve Service: Celebrate the joy of Christmas in song, prayer, and communion beginning at 11pm.

Christmas Day Service: Devotional service at Noon.

For more information: Rev. Rick Weatherly, 863-4434.

BAPHR New Year's Eve Party

The annual Bay Area Physicians for Human Rights (BAPHR) New Year's Eve Party will be held in the Flood Mansion, 2120 Broadway, on December 31 between 9pm and 2am.

Members of the Support Committee — Jack Duval, Artie Pollack, David Coulter, and Denny McShane — have planned the evening which will include drinks, dancing, entertainment and a light supper catered by Bon Appetit Caterers.

The party is open to all members, friends, and guests. Admission is \$25 in advance (\$15 for medical students) and \$30 at the door. Advanced reservations will help us plan refreshments. Dress is optional.

BAPHR members have already received an invitation and reservation form under separate mailing, but space is still available and all are urged to attend this gala event. Checks made payable to BAPHR should be returned to Jack Duval, 453 Roosevelt Way, San Francisco 94114.

Mangrove Presents LeFan and Long

Mangrove, a men's performance collective, and the Blake St. Hawkeyes present two evenings of dance, featuring John LeFan and Freddie Long, Friday and Saturday, January 9 and 10, at 2019 Blake Street, Berkeley. The performances begin at 8:30pm, with an admission of \$4.50, or PASS plus \$1.50.

LeFan, a founding member of Mangrove, and Ms. Long, an affiliate artist with Mangrove, will share the stage with different guests each evening. On Friday, Jan. 9, Sara Shelton Mann, a former dancer with

Alwin Nikolais and an affiliate artist with Mangrove, will perform and on Saturday, Jan. 10, LeFan and Long will be reunited with former Erick Hawkins dancer James Tyler, remembered in the Bay Area as a founding member of Mangrove.

For additional information and reservations, phone 552-4190. Mangrove recently completed its first tour of Europe, dancing and teaching before audiences in London, Muenster, Strassbourg, Zurich, Amsterdam and Utrecht. The company undertook a week's residency at the Esalen Institute upon returning to California and is presently preparing for its January intensive workshops and winter performance series "Mangrove Leaves."

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PETER WYNGARDE ★ Screenplay by LORENZO SEMPLE, JR.

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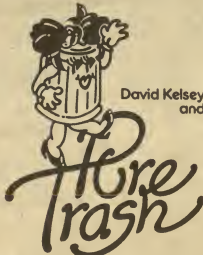
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Stage:

FROZEN ASSETS

A New English Play at the Eureka

by Dan Turner

The English playwright Edward Bond wrote an essay on violence to explain his play, *SAVED*, when it was produced and then prosecuted for a controversial scene in which a baby is stoned to death in a pram by working class victims. He said, "Violence is not a function of human nature but of human societies."

He classifies violence in four ways: "One, it is used either to maintain injustice or, two, to react to injustice; and three, its users are either conscious of its cause and significance or, four, unconscious of them." He goes on to say, "This persecution of victims by victims results from a culture which must surely be one of the most abject intellectual conditions the human mind could achieve; its most pitiable manifestation is working class support of fascism."

The Eureka Theatre, 2299 Market Street, is presenting a new play by Barrie Keeffe, also English, and who has also written on this theme. His play is called *FROZEN ASSETS*. It is the story of a 17-year old car thief who accidentally kills a warden at the reformatory and runs for his life. The man was

going to help him get treatment for his toothache when his absurd death occurs. This opening scene sets the pattern for the play and establishes the absurd dilemma which keeps repeating. As in Edward Bond's statement, human nature must ever fall prey to human society.

In this case the victimized boy is pushed to the point where he can only trust those that are worse off than he is. Only Sammy, the wino ex-prize fighter, can offer advice which is acted upon. Others that wish to help: a priest, a Lord, a dentist are members of the persecuting class. They cannot be trusted. Fate is on their side; and lower class intentions are too easily misunderstood. Even the boy's own criminal peers snub him and react violently to his suggestion that they help. His own class will not harbor additional risks. Only the wino, whose experience has been identical, can wish the fellow bon voyage!

Stephen LeGrand plays the character of this boy with believable fear. His accent is consistent. He can be charming and seductive, gullible and



Eureka Theater's Ed Kasky (L) and Pauline Pfandler in *FROZEN ASSETS*.

naive, or impatient and petulant. The character of Buddy is an actor's crossword puzzle: he can tabulate his emotions both across and down.

Barrie Keeffe calls *FROZEN ASSETS* a satire. Both the high-types and the low-types are extreme examples of their kind. They are close to caricature. Only Buddy, the victimized boy, appears in earnest and with a very real toothache.

The flip-flops of life are indeed ludicrous, and Keeffe can be grim and zany in the same scene. He is a talented writer, but the talent lies in his approach to character, not his

soap opera plot. He rubs our noses in the absurdities of class consciousness. A posh, London socialite offers Buddy a large amount of money for her laundered upper-middle class crime. The two realities are absurdly met. He refuses to accept another pound smacking of high-class deceit and attacks her with a frozen eel from her freezer filled with gourmet dainties. Is it any wonder that he mistrusts her dentist husband when he relieves his physical pain? How could he fathom the boy's mental anguish?

Kindness is as accidental as death. One must keep two

steps ahead. Buddy runs because violence is chasing him. In the words of Edward Bond, it is the violence of society: "It's easy to see that capitalism has made its ethos of violence very readily available on TV, but sometimes it's not noticed that it sells it at very reduced prices in its courts. Capitalism has made violence a cheap consumer commodity."

Barrie Keeffe's play *FROZEN ASSETS* is something to think about. One must look beyond the rudimentary story and observe the way the characters live and breathe. The play is funny because absurdities are funny, but it is satire because it is also painful.

The play is complex to stage. I would have preferred more discernible environments. There needs to be more contrast in set and lighting between gloom and largesse. The upper class home of Edna and Henry must really look comfortable. It lacked warmth — and needs to look like a fort of security. Joynne O'Neal as Edna and Nelson O'Brien as Henry give the right flavor to their performances but need to be surrounded by draperies and stuffing and large pillows to compete with the desperate frozen milieu of other scenes.

Performances are individually solid. I especially liked Joseph Miksak as the wino and Steve Coats in two roles as the priest and dentist. Coats has a talent for underplaying and creating sympathy for his character which helps balance the respective scenes. Stephen LeGrand as Buddy has the difficult position of holding all the scenes together and manages to do this commendably. I would like to see a stronger build overall, however, so that the scenes seem less like vignettes and individual dramas and more like one play.

FROZEN ASSETS is directed by Anthony Taccone and Frederick Van Patten. For reservations call 863-7133. ■

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Local Dance Series

Christopher Beck & Company: Dance/Theater announces a month-long winter season of performances, presenting powerful experiences of ritual theater and austere dramas of the human psyche.

Performances are Fridays and Saturdays in January at 8:30pm, opening January 2 and running through January 31. The performances will be at Centertspace, 2840 Mariposa Street (at Alabama) in San Francisco. Tickets are \$5 or PAS voucher plus \$2.50.

A special benefit preview performance is scheduled for Wednesday, December 31 (New Year's Eve) at 8pm, to be followed by a champagne reception. Tickets for this benefit are \$12.50, with proceeds going toward the Company's June performances on the East Coast.

The program presents four works choreographed by Christopher Beck, two premieres and two revivals. One new work is a quintet with an original electronic score by Sasha Matson. The other new piece is a solo for company member Hilary Clark titled "Girandole," to a solo violin composition by Bertrand Howard. Both Matson and Howard are Bay Area composers who have previously created scores for Christo-

pher Beck & Company: Dance/Theater.

The revivals are "Caught" (1976), described as "an artistic and theatrical realization of a psychically damaged woman's journey-struggle to heal and re-integrate her psychic life" (*Bay Guardian*), and "Luminous Rose" (1978), a "blocked-form work, almost Baroque in its sense of formal architecture" (*San Francisco Chronicle*).

Gay Men Christmas Carols

The San Francisco Gay Men's Chorus will sing a variety of Christmas carols and other songs of the season at several locations in San Francisco. The dates, times, and places for each of the programs are listed below:

Friday	12/19	Noon	Embarcadero Center
Saturday	12/20	11 am	Union Square
Saturday	12/20	3pm	Castro & 18th Streets
Monday	12/22	Noon	Sutter's Mill, 30 Kearny
Tuesday	12/23	Noon	Chinese Cultural Center Holiday Inn, Financial District

On Monday night, December 22, the Chorus will board San Francisco's "Old No. 1 Streetcar" and present Christmas carols from 7:00 to 10:00 at several "stops" along Market Street.

The Chorus will sing in a choral holiday concert with the S.F. Lesbian & Gay Men's Community Chorus on two dates — Sunday, December 21 and Wednesday, December 24 — at 7:30pm in Nourse Auditorium, Hayes at Franklin Streets, next to Davies Hall. All seats will be \$5. The public is cordially invited to attend.

JOIN UNITED WAY in its campaign drive now through Dec. 31

You can direct your contribution to Gay Rights Advocates, Legal Foundation for Personal Liberties, Operation Concern, or the East Bay's Pacific Center by using the United Way Donor Option Plan.

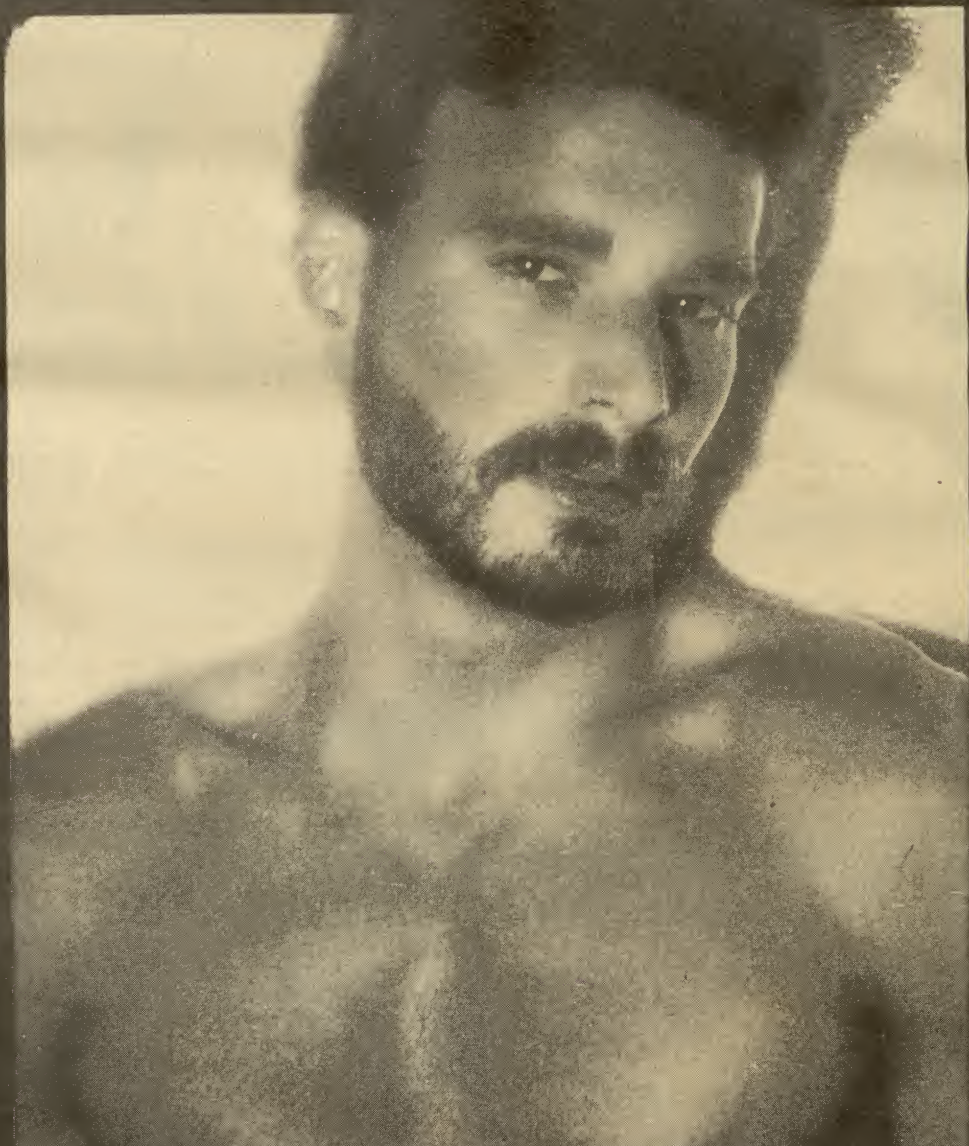
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Gene Wilder and Richard Pryor — jailbird stars of *STIR CRAZY*.

Stir Crazy

PRYOR TEAMS WITH WILDER

Recipe for comedy that works: add one part funky, jive-ass, streetwise cynic (Richard Pryor), one part naive mankind-loving idealist (Gene Wilder), set into a nonstop gag set-up script by Bruce Jay Friedman and cook it up with perky, well-paced direction by Sidney Poitier.

Then, *STIR CRAZY* and the result is a raw, thunder-and-lightning comedy about two out-of-work New Yorkers who go cuckoo when they are unjustly sent to prison instead of the greener pastures they were seeking.

Pryor apparently is a comic

HAWAII • MEXICO • GREECE • ORIENT • ITALY

talent who grates on a lot of nerves, but even hardcore Pryor haters will find they can enjoy his understated "baaad" delivery as he constantly plays off the manic Gene Wilder.

The unlikely twosome — at Wilder's urging — get out of New York, travel across the country in a broken-down van, and land up in a hick town in Arizona. Here they are framed for a bank robbery and given a 125-year sentence in a prison with the kind of criminals that make Jack the Ripper look like a boy scout. How they react to the menacing inmates and sadistic guards transforms our two-hour sentence into a short one.

Wilder is drafted as an urban cowboy at the annual prison rodeo where the only bull he throws is a bull. The only at-

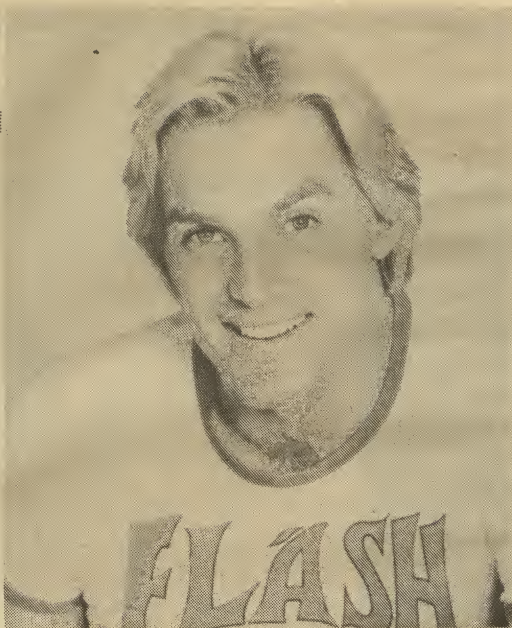
tempt at realism throughout is the language which is crowded with four-letter words — the brown variety mostly — but otherwise this all-out, low-down comedy aims for fresh material not used Pryor to now and comes out Wilder than expected. (Cinema 21)

Popeye

... MEAN AND LEADEN...

Cartoons are supposed to be funny and cheer us up. This live action version directed by Robert Altman is nasty from the start. Every character in this \$20 million musical is cantankerous and hateful — except, perhaps, for scene-stealing infant Sweet Pea.

Whatever Altman and screenwriter Jules Feiffer were trying to accomplish is never clear. They have miscalculatedly chosen to contain most of the action to the charming ramshackle set of the village of Sweethaven where the only action is a series of mean and



A 1981 Pinup — Sam J. Jones as Flash Gordon.

of bitter-edged vignettes that establish only mood without providing much-needed substance.

As Olive Oyl so rightly declares throughout the proceedings: "Phooey!" (Alhambra Theatre)

Flash Gordon

WONDERFUL FANTASY

If *POPEYE* offers no flash, *FLASH GORDON* has enough to make your eyes pop out.

The sets and costumes by Danilo Donati are a cornucopia of color, imagination, and splendor and help lure us into just under two hours of wonderful trouble-forgetting fantasy.

With a remarkably silly script by Lorenzo Semple, director Mike Hodges has allowed the actors to alternately play it straight and camp it up. Wisely, enough hipness and self-mocking style are present to accept this overblown serial as nothing more than the popcorn fare it is.

Sam J. Jones, who looks like a cross between a California beach bum and a cloned WASP, is suitably over-pretty that his acting becomes of only secondary need. Melody An-



Shelley Duvall as Olive Oyl in a meanspirited Paramount Pictures' *POPEYE*.

sadistic pratfalls.

Relying on the original version of the Popeye legacy, they don't even have Popeye consuming his famous strength-giving spinach until the last reel.

Casting Robin Williams as Popeye and Shelley Duvall as Olive Oyl was inspired, yet they are never given a chance to do anything. There is a lot of talking that does not progress the story (what there is of one) and a collection of Harry Nilsson songs that are not only untuneful but more often than not delivered offkey.

While all the characters — from Paul Dooley's Wimpy to Paul Smith's Bluto — have accurately portrayed their animated counterparts, it is to no avail because the audience isn't presented with anything but characters to interest itself. Until a sea chase and fight at the end, this leaden unanimated cartoon has no suspense.

The problem is for all the production values, there is just no screen magic here. The creators have acted like Olive Oyl — all feet and no sense of direction — and given us a series



Melody Anderson — "a travel agent on an out-of-the-way voyage" in *FLASH GORDON*.



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derson as Dale Arden, Flash's love interest, borrows some Eve Arden bitchiness and makes her role as the damsel in distress, an exuberant one. The Emperor Ming is menacingly evil as played by Ingmar Bergman veteran Max Von Sydow. As his Secret Service commandant Mariangela Melato (wonderful in those Lina Wertmuller epics) is the essence of camp. She's so nasty that when she's bumped off she melts like the Wicked Witch of the West in THE WIZARD OF OZ. She combines the delivery of Lucinda Avedon's Camay commercials with the panache of a woman who likes leather and comes up with a scorching characterization.

Mostly FLASH GORDON offers us a feast for the eyes that's especially hot on the North Point Theatre's supesize screen. The music by Queen (how appropriate!) adds a stereo blast and the whole production meshes as Flash attempts to save the Earth from Ming's plan to destroy it.

And wait until you see the Hawkmen, a bunch of winged leathemen who wear leather harnesses like business suits.

If you don't go stoned to FLASH GORDON, you'll come out high — at the very least! (North Point Theatre)

Tribute

JACK LEMMON IN A POLISHED PERFORMANCE

Supposedly 20th Century Fox is proud of this picture starring Jack Lemmon as a dying father who wants to get one last chance to come to terms with son Robbie Benson. The company has opened it in a few se-

lect cities so that it will be up for Oscar nominations for Lemmon et al.

Why? Lemmon gives his typically polished performance but as anything-for-a-laugh Scottie Templeton he does not provide us with Oscar material. Not that he is helped by the stiff performances by Robbie Benson (expected) and Lee Remick (not expected).

The script is s...l...o...w and director Bob Clark was in no hurry (length: two hours, five minutes). Based on the Broadway play by Bernard Slade, the film has been typically opened up yet still seems stagey and more theatrical than real. Although there are occasionally moving moments, they are so socked in with maudlin, soapy dialogue that you get misty-eyed because you are being manipulated, not because you want to.

Colleen Dewhurst portrays Lemmon's doctor, but her character seems totally unreal — she makes house calls! Then there is former singer turned actress Gale Garnett who plays a hooker with a heart of gold. She's good. You know you are in trouble when the only believable character in an entire movie is a hooker. (Alexandria Theatre)

Inside Moves

A FAIRYTALE ENDING TO AN OTHERWISE GLUM MOVIE

It's pretty difficult to call a movie whose first scene has its star jump from a downtown Oakland skyscraper in a botched suicide attempt upbeat. It's kinda hard to say a picture is inspiring because it deals with a bunch of society's castaways —



Robbie Benson and Jack Lemmon play father and son in Academy Award hopeful TRIBUTE.

barflies, all with physical impairments. But director Richard Donner, whose last film was SUPERMAN, has decided to show us how super a down-and-out man can be. And for the next two hours he hits us with a heavy-handed, sudsy drama that also happens to have some great "saving grace" acting.

John Savage, whose performances up to now have always been electric, keeps the current going another time as a man who finds he has much to live for when he makes friends with the guys at Max's Bar. Tending to the hangout is bartender David Morse, who, like

the customers, is handicapped and noble. The two become friends a la MIDNIGHT COWBOY and with the added assistance of basketball's Morse gets a needed leg operation that not only lets him walk normally again but star at pro basketball and supply a fairytale ending to an otherwise glum story.

The film seems calculated and controlled, what with the sentimental dialogue and tear-duct music (John Barry) and winds up moving us only inside of the splendid acting. (Royal Theatre)

Michael Lasky

Film:

"Beat the Deva"

Coming soon to the Red Victorian cinema (the only movie house that offers sleeping facilities in the rare case of a boring movie) is a new film that exploits the cinematic medium with a rare originality and wit. Using documentary, animation and feature material, Bill Arntz in his first movie BEAT THE DEVA has combined a homage to the Russian composer Alexander Scriabin with an affectionate satire of 50's Hollywood detective thrillers. The wit of this idea lies in the mystery surrounding Scriabin's life and death in which space travel, Hinduism, drugs and "color-music" all play a part.

The story begins when a young film director discovers Scriabin while searching for the theory of "color-music." Scriabin's invention. When suddenly two gangsters beat him up, our hero sets out to discover the link, getting more involved in the mystery of the composer's mind-boggling spiritual adventures. With a Bogartian panache he exposes the cliches of the old detective thriller with hilarious effect. The summing up by Guru Japati has its counterpart in many thrillers where the hero himself becomes the victim of an even greater conspiracy.

The clever script and the use of Scriabin's music to heighten the tension reveal quite a talent in Bill Arntz. I haven't seen a more exciting movie since "Celine and Julie go boating" or, dare I say it, "Stardust Memories."

Robert Turnbull

Studio West

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Symphony: Mid-Season Musings

by Philip Campbell

The 1980 San Francisco Symphony Season has reached its half-way point — what have we seen and heard? The programming thus far has been rich in promise and in most cases has been fulfilled by good performances. Maestro Edo De Waart has been careful in choosing a wide variety of compositions, and the "New and Unusual Music Series at the Galleria" was a daring project that paid off handsomely. Upcoming in January will be a festival featuring the works of Mozart and other composers of his day.

In a recent column reviewer Robert Commanday did a sort of mid-season critique that expressed disappointment with De Waart and the orchestra in general. While I feel that some of his comments were unnecessarily harsh, much of what he said was valid.

Edo De Waart is now in his fourth year with San Francisco.

When he began, he inherited a mixed bag of musicians that ranged from brilliant to downright mediocre. His conducting had to deal with the poor symphonic acoustics of the Opera House. The spectre of the highly charismatic former director Seiji Ozawa was still everywhere. Much has changed since then. The criticism leveled most often at Ozawa was that he was a showman, little concerned with the orchestra itself. De Waart had a reputation for meticulous attention to detail.

Now the Symphony has a brand new home designed specifically for the rigors of the symphonic repertoire. De Waart has had three years to whip the orchestra into shape. Has he, in fact, molded a better ensemble? Was all the time and money lavished on Louise M. Davies Symphony Hall well spent? These are the questions being pondered by Bay Area music lovers. The answers



Edo De Waart conducts the San Francisco Symphony in its new home.

don't come easily, but at this half-way point they can be addressed partially.

Without a doubt, concert going this year has been exciting. The new hall is built on a grand scale, and it is fun to see new work and improvements completed with each attendance. The works chosen for performance this season are certainly more adventurous than in the past. Maestro De Waart is displaying a cool interpretive hand, and the musicians are responding with improved playing. That's the good news. Unfortunately, there is bad news as well.

After regular visits to Davies Hall and seating in various locations, I find the acoustics are not appreciably different than they were three months ago.

There is still a disagreeable dryness to the tone that points out the vulgar bombast of the horns. This is particularly bothersome when the horns drown out the strings entirely. Even in the best seats, which I have found to be Orchestra Left, there is a disturbing imbalance.

On more than one occasion lately I have been amazed at the sloppiness of the performers. It would be easy to blame this on acoustics, but it isn't the hall that's hitting those clinkers.

As for the Maestro himself, I tend to take a more lenient attitude. He is working under constant pressure. It is demanded that he give us a world class orchestra, insightful performances, and be a fund raiser and crowd pleaser. That is a bit

much to expect of someone who must remain a musician, first and foremost. No one can deny De Waart's musicianship. He can be frustrating in his excessive restraint, but he is definitely a conductor who puts the music before his own personality.

These are continuing issues with the Symphony, and I don't expect them to be ironed out overnight. The Hall, the Orchestra, and the Conductor are under escalated scrutiny this year. With ongoing adjustment I believe that San Francisco has a better than average chance for a great Symphony orchestra. Let us hope that when the regular subscription series resumes on January 21, Maestro De Waart will have made some New Year's resolutions along with the rest of us.

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Christmas Music & Mass

St. Procopius Church will hold its annual Christmas Eve traditional Midnight Mass complete with Latin Gregorian chant, carols and special guest Victoria Ford, noted operatic soloist. Mrs. Ford will sing the traditional "Ave Maria" by Schubert and "O Holy Night" during the traditional Solemn High Latin Mass. The doors of the church will open at 11:30pm. The church is located at 926 Hearst Street in Berkeley, just off the University Avenue exit from Highway 17, the East Shore Freeway.

Christmas Day mass will be at 10am. Everyone is cordially invited to attend.

... but of chorus!

The San Francisco Lesbian Chorus has announced a benefit concert. Performances will be by Swing Shift, Carolyn Brandy, Chrysanthemum Ragtime Band and deForest Walker. All are invited to hear the music and enjoy the refreshments at New College, 777 Valencia Street (at 17th St.), San Francisco, on Sunday, January 11 from 7-10pm.

The proceeds from this benefit are for the upcoming concert productions and the ongoing expenses of the San Francisco Lesbian Chorus.

Tickets at the door: \$3.50-\$5.00, or call 647-6339.

Two Women Sing

On Saturday, January 10, Catherine D'Amato will perform with her special guest Lorri Cetto at the Seventh Avenue Presbyterian Church, 1329 Seventh Ave., San Francisco. The concert begins at 8:00pm.

Says a press release, "Having performed in San Francisco, Catherine's music is colored by her experience as a woman and reflects human relationships. Lorri Cetto, now studying choral conducting in the East, has performed throughout the East Coast."

Ms. D'Amato and Ms. Cetto met while on a singing tour in Europe in 1973. They have sung together since that time.

Kitt at Plush Room

Eartha Kitt, international star of stage, screen and television, is back at the Plush Room of the Hotel York with a brand new show just in time for Christmas. Eartha will be opening on December 22 and will perform through the 24th and then continue on December 26 and perform through the 30th. There will be a special Eartha Kitt party on closing night, December 30 — a splendid affair featuring complimentary champagne! Eartha will perform two shows nightly at 9:30 and 11:00pm.

New Year's Eve Extravaganza at "BBB"

As is customary this time of year, Steve Silver, producer of "Beach Blanket Babylon Goes to the Stars!" is planning for the 7th Annual New Year's Eve blast at Club Fugazi, 678 Green Street in San Francisco. There will be two shows on Wednesday, Dec. 31, at 7:30 and 10:30pm.

The 7:30 performance will include a glass of champagne per person and hats and favors (\$15). The 10:30 performance includes a bottle of champagne per person, party favors, the traditional "Beach Blanket Babylon" countdown, a colorful, crazy New Year's Eve parade and dancing until 2:00am (\$35).

The musical revue, which celebrates its 1000th performance on Wednesday, Dec. 27, will go on vacation after New Year's Eve for three weeks and resume production on Thursday, Jan. 29. The Box Office will remain open during the brief hiatus from 10am to 6pm Mondays through Saturdays and noon to 5pm on Sundays.

For further information or to charge tickets by phone, call 421-4222. Tickets are also available at Macy's, BASS, and other major agencies.

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Russian River Holiday Events

The Russian River Business Association takes pleasure in announcing the following events to further your enjoyment of this holiday season:

SATURDAY, DEC. 20

5:30PM - Christmas carolers will begin singing in front of the main downtown tree in Guerneville at the Bank of America building. Santa arrives at 6PM with gifts for the children.

8:00PM - A Christmas show will be presented at the River Theater in Guerneville with the following program: Rev. Robert Jones from the Guerneville Community Church will be Master of Ceremonies; the Blue Horizon Players from the Rio Theater show will present two scenes from Charles Dickens' "A Christmas Carol"; a 20-member chorus called Vocal Minority from San Francisco will perform as will the Lollipop Barbershop Quartet, also from San Francisco; the River Village Carolers will sing. Lights and sound are being provided by Magenta Productions from Napa. Donation: \$1

The following events will be presented as benefits for the Russian River Business Association.

FRIDAY, DEC. 26

Fife's will have a Casino Night with gaming tables. Door charge of \$10 includes playing chips and desserts. First prize is a gift certificate from Wilkes' Bashford in San Francisco for \$200.

SATURDAY, DEC. 27

The Woods will have a dinner and show for \$5 cover. Entertainment by Sharon McKnight, Robin Flower & Co., and Rann Shinar... also Jae Ross, singer; Teresa Trull, singer; and Lola Claire, singer and dancer (she appeared in Berlin in 1932).

SUNDAY, DEC. 28

Billed as "Hangover Hoe-down," the River Village will offer beer and schnapps at ridiculously low prices with country western entertainment.

Rainbow Presents

The Rainbow Cattle Co., 199 Valencia (cnr Duboce), 861-9652, presents the following entertainment for December and January:

Dec. 25, MERRY CHRISTMAS; Dec. 28, Stir Crazy; Dec. 31, HAPPY NEW YEAR with The John Gallagher Band (party starts at 9pm).

Jan. 4, Four Wheel Drive; Jan. 11, The Load; Jan. 18, Stir Crazy; Jan. 25, Whiskey Hill.

Entertainment starts every Sunday at 5pm.

Milk Story to be Filmed

B.A.R. INTERVIEW WITH PRODUCER JERRY WHEELER

by Dan Turner

DT: Tell me your production plans on the film on Harvey Milk.

WHEELER: We plan to shoot in late March of 1981; and assuming all the elements come together in the next four or five weeks, we will stay on schedule.

DT: What are your plans for the script?

WHEELER: We have an offer out to a screenwriter who will take all the research we have compiled and put together a screenplay in about four to six weeks. We should have a first draft on a screenplay by the end of January.

DT: Do you know who that may be?

WHEELER: The offer is out to Martin Sherman who won the Tony award last year for his play BENT. He is currently writing a screenplay of BENT for Columbia Pictures and is supposed to be out here regarding that and to meet with me in the next couple of weeks to work out our schedules from there.

DT: Do you know how the story will shape up in terms of what you'll cover?

WHEELER: Yes, we're going to start in 1973 with Harvey's emergence into politics. We're going to start with his first campaign, back in the days when he had long hair and a moustache and was campaigning on street corners.

DT: How far will you continue?

WHEELER: We're going past the assassination, but not in great detail. We're considering doing an epilogue to the picture regarding the aftermath, but the film will start out with the aftermath — meaning the City Hall riots — that's the opening of the picture — a montage of the riot and the aftermath.

DT: Will you take it up through the Dan White trial?

WHEELER: The opening of the picture will cover some of that. The opening covers the verdict being announced on television and the reaction of the community to that.

DT: Will you try to recreate the assassination?

WHEELER: Yes. We have documentation on all the specific details. We're going to try and depict it as honestly and as carefully as we can.

DT: Will you be telling anyone else's story as well as Harvey Milk's?

WHEELER: Absolutely. Dan White figures prominently in the story.

DT: There'll be an actor portraying Dan White?

WHEELER: Yes, and at this point I want Michael Moriarty. I have an obligation to him from another film project of mine. He will certainly get the first offer for the Dan White role. We want to show a little of White's background and the influences that may or may not have led up to him committing the murders. George Moscone will be a major character; Mayor Feinstein will be a major character; and, of course, the key aides — Anne Kronenberg and Dick Patich — will have strong roles.

DT: Who will play these roles? Do you know?

WHEELER: No, I have ideas. Somebody like Brenda Vaccaro playing Anne Kronenberg. Outside of the Harvey Milk character, we haven't made any major moves on casting.

DT: Who is playing Harvey Milk?

WHEELER: Subject to his availability, Ron Liebmann will play Harvey. Liebmann co-starred with Sally Fields in NORMA RAE and has been on Broadway in the past year in the new Neil Simon play I OUGHT TO BE IN PICTURES.

DT: Will you be doing any casting here in the city?

WHEELER: Yes. The supporting roles, the bit roles, and extras will all be cast in San Francisco.

DT: Do you have any dates for casting?

WHEELER: Assuming we stay on schedule, we will cast those particular roles in late February and early March.

DT: How did you get interested in the subject of Harvey Milk?

WHEELER: I had been with my friend Steve Badeau watching the CBS special "Gay Power-Gay Politics," and we were both sufficiently outraged over the way that was handled. Later, we were at the Twin Peaks bar and Harvey's name came up. Steve was telling me some of his involvements with Harvey. I was asking him some questions and became very interested in the subject matter. Steve told me of his involvement and friends he knew and things he knew and got me real excited about looking into it further — so we

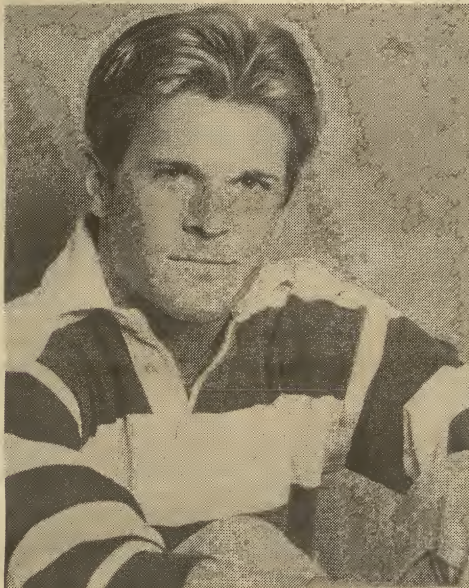
researched the subject matter, and I started putting things in motion. At that time, all we could find out was that Randy Shilts was thinking about writing a biography about it, so we went to Randy and talked to him about his efforts and started meeting various other people who were involved with Milk and little by little it all came together. We have been doing some extensive research and now we have about eight months of solid material to develop into a screenplay.

DT: Have people been cooperative with you?

WHEELER: Generally speaking, people have been most cooperative.

DT: What do you hope the film will say to the audience — a general audience?

WHEELER: This is a political drama first and foremost — political dramas seem to have a tremendous appeal to general audiences. In a way the film is going to be handled like ALL THE PRESIDENT'S MEN, which I thought was a good film and done very well. Actually, the real reason behind doing this film — what I'm trying to accomplish — is to create a strong, positive depiction of the Gay community and of the Gay political movement. We've been so slandered in the media in the past years that someone has got to step forward and do something major that gets a response from all over the world and let people know that we are not all crazy, that we're not all killers, that we're not all child molesters. There are so many positive elements to Harvey Milk's story.



Film producer Jerry B. Wheeler, who plans to make a film of Harvey Milk's life, is interviewed by B.A.R. columnist Dan Turner.

DT: Will you be using any documentary footage or...?

WHEELER: I hope so. I would like very much to use some of the documentary footage. We've had a couple of strange happenings. The police department has refused us access to their film and videotape footage with insufficient explanation. I have also offered to purchase and to duplicate some videotape coverage of certain events from Channel 2 and they are reluctant to cooperate with us in this manner. However, there is another important department in the city works that has volunteered all the access to what we need, and I don't want to mention who or what or where at this time for obvious reasons. We'll have access to all the videotape and film coverage of many of the events. We hope to utilize a considerable amount of that.

DT: Who will direct this picture?

WHEELER: I don't have a director set yet. I do have interest in Daniel Mann, who just did the Vanessa Redgrave PLAYING FOR TIME. Mr. Mann is an outstanding director. He's done some of the film classics over the past twenty years like BUTTERFIELD 8, THE LAST ANGRY MAN, THE ROSE TATTOO — many fine films. He's very interested in this project.

DT: What would Hollywood's reaction be to this subject and film?

WHEELER: Hollywood's reaction this far has been good, but everyone

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has their own point of view on this subject matter, and in the wrong hands it would be horrendously distorted. Like every other Gay story that's ever been attempted, Hollywood manages to step in and destroy the integrity. I'm not going to allow this to happen. That's why this project's being financed independently and will be produced independently.

DT: Are you looking for investors?

WHEELER: To an extent. We are in very good shape on money at this point. We are now in negotiations for the production financing. The film is budgeted at three million dollars, and at this point I am confident that the rest that we need will come together very quickly.

DT: Will you be using as many people from the Bay Area as you can?

WHEELER: I intend to staff and crew this picture with as many local people as possible. This will be a union picture. We'll be using the IA, the local Teamsters Union — it will be under Screen Actors Guild jurisdiction. Basically a union film. It is to my advantage and to the picture's advantage to use as many local people as we possibly can.

DT: What is your past experience working with film?

WHEELER: I've been in the entertainment industry since I was eleven years old, which is twenty-three years. I've worked with about every aspect of film, television and theater. My first venture as a solo producer — meaning with my name above the title as producer — was a film that's out right now that I produced last year called *THE LAST RESORT* which stars Matt Collins, Barbara Baxley, Eartha Kitt, Pat Carroll, Tow Ewell — a lot of wonderful people. It should be playing here in San Francisco in the next month, I believe.

DT: What other work have you done?

WHEELER: I've been an independent producer for the last three years. Prior to that I was a talent agent for seven years. I've also been a personal manager. I was a comedy writer for television. I hate to admit this, but I worked for CBS for three years in various capacities as a writer and as an associate producer and a number of things. Prior to that I worked in New York at CBS and in theater for a good many years.

DT: Do you have any insight as to how the CBS documentary happened or why that kind of thing happens?

WHEELER: People are afraid of the truth. I think the media is very guilty of that. They immediately set out to sensationalize anything that is sensitive. My experience working with the networks — some of my experience was horrendous — I saw how they would distort anything having to do with minorities — and they're just afraid. I've never understood. I do not like working in television, and I've tried to stay out of it as much as possible.

DT: People try to manipulate what you want to say?

WHEELER: Absolutely! They want to make a story palatable for the masses; therefore, it is distorted and watered down. The CBS special was a prime example; just about everything in it was distorted.

DT: What did they hope to achieve by playing up sex in Buena Vista Park? as opposed to the Gay Men's Chorus?

WHEELER: That boils down to one key issue — and that's ratings. The sensationalism of that just gives them high ratings, i.e. big bucks.

DT: Did it get high ratings?

WHEELER: It got very high ratings, and when they replayed it for the second time — and they'll replay it again I'm sure — I believe in the second showing it got even higher ratings due to the controversy. America looks at the Gay community through the point of view of the CBS special. So someone now has to change that attitude by coming out with a quality product that says — hey, we're human beings. What we do in our beds is none of your goddamn business; leave us alone.

DT: What aspects of the Harvey Milk story do you think will help our image?

WHEELER: There are a lot of interesting people involved in the Harvey Milk story. Harvey was a street person — fought his own way into the political arena — and made tremendous strides as a politician and as a Gay person. The people around him — with a few exceptions — I found to be very intelligent, leading a constructive life, and just really good people. I want to show Gays working in diverse situations. I want to show them as concerned about what is happening in this country politically, and where everyone is working together and not against each other which seems to be happening right now — in the political workings in this particular city and in most major cities.

DT: The Gays are working against each other?

WHEELER: Yes — it appears to me that they are.

DT: Why is that?

WHEELER: I have no idea; but in my research on this film, I'm seeing all these diverse political factions where people are constantly at each other's throats and there seems to be a lot of back-stabbing and ass-biting around politics these days.

DT: Will you be showing Harvey working with straight people?

WHEELER: Absolutely. In fact there are many interesting stories, and many more dramatic angles, with Harvey's involvement with the straight element of the community — some really wonderful, touching moments that we plan on using.

DT: What other things will we see happening? How much of the Gay lifestyle will you show?

WHEELER: As much as we can. We're going to be very honest. I want to be as realistic as possible — within the scope of the events at the time.

DT: Will you take the camera into bars and show Gay people in bars, on the streets, holding hands in public?

WHEELER: Yes — whatever the natural beat of the moment is.

DT: You're not going to try and closet any aspect of the city?

WHEELER: Absolutely not!

DT: The CBS documentary took that and edited that and made it look frightening to the average person. How will you control the film so that does not happen?

WHEELER: In this particular project all elements begin and end with me. I will have the final say on the script and the final cut on the editing — that is a provision I make with the director and the editor before this project starts; whoever directs this film has to have that understanding and be willing to co-

operate with me because I know the value of editing and I know how often a director or an editor can get carried away without proper scrutiny.

DT: What are the stages of production? How long will the actual filming take place?

WHEELER: At the moment I'm anticipating a seven-week shooting. It will all be done in San Francisco in the actual location where the events originally took place. Harvey's camera shop is no longer there, so we will create that set and build it — we're using Cine West — Stage A — downtown to build a lot of interiors there — to facilitate shooting such interiors — but most of the exterior areas are readily available.

DT: What happens next?

WHEELER: We immediately start editing the picture which is about a ten-week process — then it's a question of putting it together, putting a musical score in, the titles, and an endless number of things before we have a workprint. From the workprint — we cut that down to an answer print and we do color correction, timing, etc.

DT: When do you see the film being finished and on the screen?

WHEELER: I haven't gotten that far, but I have selected a piece of music to be used in the opening of the picture that was popular back in the late 60's — a performer/writer by the name of Scott McKenzie — his real name is Jason McKenzie — wrote a song called "Gentle People." People probably recognize its opening lyrics: "If you're going to San Francisco, be sure and wear a flower in your hair... you're going to find some gentle people there." It's a wonderful song and has a wonderful irony to it in respect to this film story. The song will be used early in the film and will play up and under the main title and credits. As you recall, I mentioned that we open with the City Hall riots and the aftermath, culminating with a freeze frame shot of a cop beating on a young Lesbian and her young girlfriend trying to pull the cop off the other girl — that will be a freeze frame — over that the title will appear and before that freeze frame disappears the "Gentle People" music will start. The scene dissolves into 1973 Haight-Ashbury where we find Harvey talking with a group of people in his campaign efforts for the Board of Supervisors.

DT: What other ironies do you hope to bring out?

WHEELER: There are a great many — most of them have to do with Dan White. There are ironies in the Senator Briggs situation. There are ironies in Dan White being pro-death penalty and Harvey being very anti-death penalty — and Dan White being influential in Prop. 7, which extended the death penalty so that it included assassins of political figures — and I'm sure you can figure that irony out real fast.

DT: How do you see the film ending?

WHEELER: I'm very concerned about the ending of this film. I don't want it to be a downer. I want people to leave the theater angered but feeling there is hope. That's hard to accomplish in this story. The film will probably end shortly after the assassination. Right now I see it as the candlelight march. Joan Baez is going to be in the film, as she was that particular night when she sang some songs in memory of Harvey and George. We are currently having a song written that I wrote the lyrics to called "Castro Street Blues." Depending on how that song comes out — that will be the end. Jane Fonda has been helpful to me getting this project off the ground. She was really concerned about how the film would end. She had some good ideas which I am kicking around and planning on getting back to her and letting her see what we come up with in the screenplay.

DT: Do you see the film as having any humor?

WHEELER: Absolutely — Harvey was a theatrical personality with a wonderful sense of humor. We intend to utilize that.

DT: Do you have an idea of who might portray Senator Briggs?

WHEELER: Not at this point.

DT: Will Anita Bryant figure in the film?

DT: Not in your life — or hers. The Dade County business will be in the film. Harvey was one of the first politicians to get the community up in arms against the Dade County Coalition and that's an important issue.

DT: What about Moscone? Will you be touching on his position in the Gay community?

WHEELER: Yes; Moscone will be a major character in this film. We will certainly show what he did and did not do for the Gay community; and, of course, his relationship with Harvey which was on and off, hot and cold those four years.

DT: How is Dianne Feinstein co-operating with the film?

WHEELER: She is aware of our efforts. I have not spoken to her directly. We will want to at some point. We have not heard anything specific in that regard.

DT: Are you looking for people to help from the community? Is there an address that they may contact you at?

WHEELER: By all means. We are going to be hiring the supporting technical staff and crew, and there'll be quite a few incidental jobs where we'll be using community people on a daily basis. They will be salaried — not to mention that we'll be hiring about 5,000 extras for various scenes — the riot, the candlelight march. I'm going to go around to the Gay bars and discos and putting up signs and making announcements asking for volunteers to appear in the film and we will either provide a free party or a dinner of some sort for those who participate in the film. They will not be paid, however, because we have to use a certain number of union extras and they get the priority, as far as the extra work goes; but there are just not enough union extras to fill our needs, so I will be appealing to the Gay community for a lot of these supporting jobs and extra work.

DT: What about people who might have information about Harvey?

WHEELER: I am very interested in hearing from people who worked with him or knew him — friends who have any stories or anecdotes or even photographs that they feel might be

photographs that they feel might be helpful in putting the film together. I can be contacted at my L.A. office: Jerry B. Wheeler Productions Inc., 9056 Santa Monica Blvd., Suite 201, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

Dan Turner

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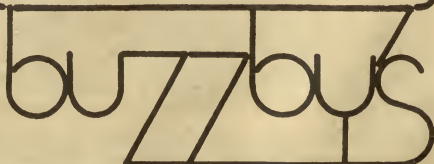
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Tales of Tessa Tura

From Prussia With Love

by George Heymont

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Mention Vienna to anyone and romantic visions come to mind. For some, the visions consist of sacher tortes and other noncaloric delights. For others, it represents the grandeur of days gone by. But at one point or another either Johann or Richard Strauss is going to pop into the conversation. Each composer has provided a musical backbone to

the legend of the Austro-Hungarian empire. Though their musical styles differ widely, five minutes of either man's music leaves the indelible impression of an historic page in the history of middle-European romance and a charming innocence which may never be seen again.

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As the lovely Arabella, Kiri Te Kanawa gave San Franciscans a model lesson in what musical artistry is all about.

duction of ARABELLA borrowed from the Houston Grand Opera. This was the first time I had ever seen the work, and I was thoroughly captivated by its charm. The opera is often hard to cast, yet it is a jewel of such glittering radiance that one longs for more frequent productions.

Casting was so well balanced that the evening glowed with an ensemble effort. Each supporting artist delivered a fully-developed characterization and sang with exquisite musicianship. From the Harpo Marx-like Fiekermill of Erie Mills down to Rebecca Cook's beautifully sung fortune teller it was obvious that the musical preparation for this production had been intense and immaculate.

William Lewis scored strongly as Matteo. He was finally won over by Barbara Daniels' Zdenka. Daniels is an exceptional artist who turned this difficult trouser role into a most winning portrait. Both artists provided a handsome foil to the heroic achievements of Kiri Te Kanawa as Arabella, and

Ingvar Wixell as Mandryka.

Both Te Kanawa and Wixell are distinguished musicians in their own right. They bring an intelligence and warmth to their characterizations which separate them from even the top echelon of artists. Their performances transcend the sheer mechanics of making music and thrust the audience into an other-worldly experience. Te Kanawa, in particular, was phenomenal. Her luscious singing, enchanting presence, and intelligent stagecraft turned the performance into a model lesson in what constitutes the life and breath of an operatic character.

DEEP CROAT

It's hard to believe that Carol Fox and Beverly Sills have such a bad case of the hots for Attila the Hun. Both ladies are staging Verdi's ATTILA this season in a joint venture between the Lyric Opera of Chicago, New York City Opera, and San Diego Opera companies. ATTILA is one of Verdi's earlier works. The plot is a bizarre piece of treachery and evangelistic propaganda. The music is full of Verdi's rum-tiddy-thump patriotic rhythms.

This production sports some of the most interesting wig work I've seen in years and could start a new fashion trend.

Ming Cho Lee has provided functional sets which work nicely with Hal George's excellent costume designs.

The rest of what I saw onstage in Chicago was a severe disappointment. Ernest Poetgen's nonstaging (he is credited with the direction) was an utter abortion. It has been years since I have seen an evening where all the principals lined up onstage and sang directly to the prompter. I became so furious I wanted to call in a wrecking crew to destroy the prompter's box.

The drawing card behind this production was the appearance of Nicolai Ghiaurov as Attila the Hun. After ten days with the hiccups, Ghiaurov returned to town and managed to sing the performance I attended. With either Ghiaurov onstage or a bilious-looking Gilda Cruz-Roma as Odabella, the performance was wooden beyond belief. Veriano Luchetti managed to liven up matters a bit as Foresto.

Thankfully, the production will be restaged and get a casting overhaul this spring when it plays the City Opera. Sills has cast Samuel Ramey as Attila, and will have Marilyn Zschau alternating with Marisa Galvany as Odabella. That ought to put some of the fire and brimstone back into early Verdi. What Chicago offered the audience was closer to operatic pablum.

VERY MUCH FROM HUNGARY

One of the highlights of this fall's operagoing was the San Diego Opera's production of DIE FLEDERMAUS starring Joan Sutherland and Beverly Sills. The performance I attended marked Sills' last operatic appearance and was a memorable event. The woman has had a single-handed triumph in turning Americans upside down and raising the nation's collective consciousness about opera. For me, she personalized the joy of making music in a special way. Having both divas onstage for the first time added a wistful touch of history while marking the end of an era. Zack Brown's sets (borrowed from the Houston Grand Opera) added a special stained-glass Victorian charm. The event reminded me of the last time the Queen Mary and Queen Elizabeth had passed each other in the Atlantic Ocean before their respective retirements.

Sutherland is in good, solid form. Her Rosalinda is a delight. She can still sit on a note and hold it for about 200 measures until the curtain comes

(Continued on next page)



"Where do you get off saying I've never been able to trill a day in my life?" Rosalinda (Joan Sutherland) and Adele (Beverly Sills) confront each other in the San Diego Opera's historic performances of DIE FLEDERMAUS.

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On The Beat

Rock Presents and Pasts

by Adam Block

CHRISTMAS CHOICES

I know this is a rough season, rolling in on the heels of an ugly fall. The elections came down like some inevitable illness. My friends at Recycled Records prepared a window of "Albums for the Reagan Era," featuring the Ray Coniff singers, the Pacemaker Quartet, and Donny and Marie. Frank Sinatra was chosen to organize the Inaugural entertainment. Bruce Springsteen released his "masterpiece," *THE RIVER*, and it started sounding all too trivial all too soon. Metromedia quit pretending they cared, and KSAN became a "progressive country" station — almost a contradiction in terms these days.

John Lennon released a lame "comeback" lp — for once Yoko sounded better

Tessi Tura

(Continued from Page 36)

down. When Alan Titus blew a line, Sutherland sweetly turned and whispered, "We did that already, dear." Another veteran in the cast was Regina Resnik as Prince Orlofsky. Resnik (in town to direct *ELEKTRA* for the San Diego Opera) volunteered her services as Orlofsky just for the fun of the event. Between Resnik, Sills and Sutherland there lies close to 100 years of professional operatic experience. Quite a lineup!

All three ladies are troupers. Sills, though exhausted from commuting back and forth to New York (where she was producing three one-act world premieres by American composers) managed to pull enough energy out of her hat to give a zesty farewell performance as Adele. Though her voice was not up to its former glories, she used her wealth of spunk and pizzazz to make the afternoon a delightful frolic. The only weak point of the show was Leonard Frey's shtick as Frosh, the drunken jailer. His comic skills were not sufficiently exploited, or perhaps his talents dimmed when surrounded by the rest of the cast.

Sutherland's husband, Richard Bonyuge handled matters in the pit while Sills' long-time friend, Tito Capobianco, directed the production. During the curtain calls Capobianco (who is also General Director of the San Diego Opera) had a piano brought out onstage. He then led the entire company (to the tune of "Hello, Dolly") in a version of "So Long, Bubbles." Turning to the woman he has directed in so many landmark performances, he instructed Beverly to "leave the stage any way you wish, because the San Diego Opera will never ring down the curtain on you."

As she walked offstage, waving to the audience, even Sills got a bit sentimental. The other 3,000 people in the auditorium had hot tears burning down their cheeks. It was quite a memorable and nostalgic afternoon.

George Heymont

than John — and promptly got blown away by some formerly reborn little loser. Ron reaffirmed his opposition to gun control. Nancy announced that she packs a pistol. The *Chronicle* bannered a tedious inquiry into which of the assassin's six personalities pulled the trigger, while Diminished Capacity Dan's lawyers argued for early release.

California's leading band, the Eagles, released a live lp that was dead on arrival. News broke that member Doug Henley had been busted in LA for quailing two teenage girls with Quaaludes and cocaine to the point of convulsions. The fall's biggest single was the smug, loutish rant "Another One Bites the Dust."

Over at *Rolling Stone*, Dave Marsh announced that rock has been reduced to self-congratulatory little cults, catered to by bands whose only concern is doling out the familiar fare demanded — be it disco or avant/punk, heavy metal or easy listening — as the various factions sneer down their noses at one another. As rock has lost its will, or ability, to disrupt expectations and invent a sense of shared discovery and community, Marsh will tell you that it has become "meaningless."

Now I know that none of this is particularly helpful or encouraging news in this holiday season. Who wants to think that buying an lp for someone is liable to deeply alienate their affections. They will either already own it or consider you some sort of jerk for choosing it. And, God knows, shopping is tough enough already. Why not give them all Paco Robanne or subscriptions to the *B.A.R.*?

No need for panic. Shucks, I'm here to be helpful and encouraging. First, I've prospected through awesome outcroppings of polyvinyl chloride to avoid those titles widely owned already; and Second, I guarantee the hipness of every one. If you get even a lukewarm response, just say, "hey, my critic is Block, and he says" (pause for the hush) "if you don't like the album, we can go over to his place, and you can kiss his ass." I know the offer is generous, but we're talking troubled times.

Now, let's talk music.

JAZZ

The big advantage her is no words — great for the pre-and post-literates on your list; and none of your tone deaf friends are liable to sing along, unlike, say, with Barbra Streisand or the Pretenders.

1. **MAGICO:** Charlie Haden, Jan Garbarek, Egberto Gismonti (ECM) — acoustic bass, saxophone, guitar and piano from an inspired teaming. The music is lyrical and lucid, perfect for gazing into or for furnishing a tasteful rendezvous.

2. **ILLUSIONS:** Arthur Blythe (CBS) — Blythe is insistent, discursive, and daring — matching his post-bop alto with clusters of funk, no wave guitar, lustrous piano, tuba and cello. These are intriguing and



Street scene in memory of John Lennon just above Castro Street. (Photo by Rink)

witty explorations that joust with the listener's expectations.

3. **80/81:** Pat Metheny with Jack DeJohnette, Charlie Haden, Dewey Redman, and Michael Brecker (ECM) — Boy guitar whiz and collegiate favorite Metheny join forces with some hard bop heavyweights, two former Ornette Coleman sidemen, and the results are a winning two lp package. Metheny's crisply melodic playing alternately leads and follows the unexpected flights and exchanges of the combo with delicious success.

BLACK FEMALE VOCALISTS

I think there must be some college student doing a thesis on why male homosexuals exhibit such a consistent and bizarre identification with your BFV's. My roommate has accused me of having been a megalomaniacal, layabout, black cleaning lady in a previous lifetime. I had a skinny white boyfriend from Florida who used to imagine himself Patti LaBelle, and I have a homo brother who knows the lyrics to every Mabel Mercer song by heart. Guess I'll have to read that thesis. You get the records.

1. **AMTRACK BLUES:** Alberta Hunter (CBS) — When my buddy Jack got back from a visit to New York this fall, he said the only things that had been worth a shit were Bowie in *ELEPHANT MAN* and Alberta Hunter at the Cookery. At 85, some consider her the Ruth Gordon of the blues. Well, she sings a lot better than Ruth. There are cuts here that have more life than Aretha's entire new lp.

2. **SOCIAL CALL:** Betty Carter (CBS) — Carmen McRae called her "the only real jazz singer." This lp is not her most recent and daring work (get *BETTY CARTER ALBUM* on Bet-Car) but a reissue of her first '55 session, arranged by Quincy Jones, and an unreleased '56 session with a big band. Ella and Vaughn were still her models — her own style aborning; but there is music here that brooks no apology. Hell, Herb Caen would love this.

3. **ROBERTA FLACK FEATURING DONNY HATHAWAY:** Ditto (Atlantic) — Hathaway only made it for two cuts, and there are only seven on the lp — two of them Stevie

BLACK MALE VOCALISTS

The first two are on a local label and, cheapskates take note, bargain priced.

1. **LIVE AT THE APOLLO '62:** James Brown (Solid Smoke) — Back when he could probably blow Little Richard off a stage, Brown cut what is arguably the best live lp ever (*OTIS REDDING LIVE IN EUROPE*, currently a Japanese import, is up there) and its reissue is cause for celebration. This came before he locked himself into his cold hump-a-funk shouts. It is a revelation.

2. **THE SHEPPARDS:** The Sheppards (Solid Smoke) — Black vocal harmony groups have been resurging, with fine lps this year by the Whispers and Ray Goodman and

(Continued on next page)

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On The Beat

(Continued from Page 37)

Brown, which makes the rediscovery of these originals particularly timely. Circa '59-'63, Dave Marsh calls them the "missing link" between the Drifters/Platters era and the Temptations/Impressions era. I think you'll like their singing too: 2 discs, 18 cuts.

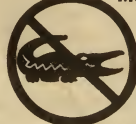
3. **WARM THOUGHTS:** Smokey Robinson (Motown) — After a wobbly to excruciating solo career, comes "Cruising" and this lp; worthy, if not equal to his Motown salad days, but no one else is either.

4. **HOTTER THAN JULY:** Stevie Wonder (Tamla) — OK, this isn't real obscure, but it is so nice to have Steve land back from his extended discourse with the vegetable kingdom that this fruit doesn't care how sappy the eggplant is on cuts like "Happy Birthday."

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A Beatles album jacket featured in Christmas display. (Photo by Rink)

disc is to spring for the \$9 to \$11 that imports generally run. Though many new wave groups have been picked up by U.S. companies, these four don't seem due for such a fete.

1. **SEVENTEEN SECONDS:** The Cure (Fiction) — Haunting impressionistic vocals cast sweetly adrift on sensuous synthesizer. This group isn't as cold or arch as the original Ultravox, nor as cute and crisp as its latest model. These boys are dreamy and tough.

2. **CLOSER:** Joy Division (Factory Records) — Lead singer/songwriter Ian Curtis hung himself earlier this year (just before a first US tour), effectively finishing off the group. It is his very human voice, hints of both Jim Morrison and Jonothan Richman, and brutally suggestive lyrics

that ride the sparse drums and synthesizer. The music is both spooky and endearing. Two 12" singles followed this disc — "Love Will Tear Us Apart" and "She's Lost Control." The rest, I suppose, is silence.

3. **ORGANIZATION:** Orchestral Maneuvers (N-Disc) — Another impressionistic synthesizer band, with as much dance as trance to their grooves and a bit of a "disco hit" with "Enola Gay" from this collection. Give it to a Gary Numan fan who shows potential.

4. **SIGNING OFF:** UB40 (Factory) — The most interesting, post-ska revival integration of reggae into a new voice I've heard out of the UK. This was also the most successful independent lp to hit in Britain this year, and the first to hit the #1 spot and stay there. Best, it deserved it. Stop by Rough Trade Records and ask them to play the cover of Randy Newman's "I Think It's Going to Rain Today," and see if I'm kidding.

DOUBLE THREATS

If you are still worried that the record you choose is going to be a flop, take courage. You can get an oldie. After all, amongst homos nostalgia is almost a religion. Ah, but to make it special get an import

that is no longer available in the U.S. (Like that OTIS REDDING LIVE IN EUROPE from Japan? Exactly!) I spotted these at Recycled Records and Rough Trade on Grant Ave.

1. **PRESLEY SINGS LIEBER AND STOLLER:** Elvis Presley (UK) — You just about can't go wrong with Elvis, particularly on the material these gifted jewboys crafted from "Hound Dog" to "Santa Claus Is Back." There are 20 cuts for \$8 and a wonderful shot of Elvis with the songwriters on the cover.

2. **LEGEND:** Buddy Holly (Coral) — The best collection you are going to find (41 cuts on three discs) short of the \$60 twelve-lp set, by the man Mick Jagger called "the only original white rock'n'roller." It's \$16 and more than worth it.

3. **ROCK ON WITH GENE:** Gene Vincent (UK) — This is a hits package, though only "Be-Bop-A-Lu-La" was truly his. Four early ('56-'61) lps are available in the original packages at \$10 a crack. This one is only \$8, cheap for a rockabilly rebel as sweet as he was crazed.

4. **STAX GOLD/20 HITS:** Various Artists (UK) — Though not all of these were truly hits, from Isaac Hayes' "Shaft's Theme" — the seminal disco cut — through the Staples' "Respect Yourself," Eddie Floyd's "Knock On Wood," and Booker T's "Time Is Right," this is a lively collection.

5. **GOLDEN HITS:** The Kinks (UK) — This is a fairly strong selection, 44 cuts, from the fey and winningpen of Ray Davies and it is only \$13. Gee willikers.

LATE ENTRIES AND LAST CHANCES

My pick for best American new wave disc of the annum goes to the Talking Heads' REMAIN IN LIGHT. For best up-and-comer try local refugee Jim Carroll's stunning CATHOLIC BOY. For grand eccentricity — a shimmering beast, thorn in the side, and Yankee wonders, get ole ashtray-heart Capt. Beefheart's heroic DOC AT THE RADAR STATION. If it is nice high gloss you want, Dire Straits offer MAKING MOVIES, but check out the snide Gays-as-play-Nazis lyric of "les boys" while you're at it. My pick for a "greatest hits" package goes to ROCK & ROLL DIARY, 1967-1980 by Lou Reed. The artful selections bypass frinstance the high gloss R&R ANIMAL take of "Heroin" for the starkly wondrous live one from a college show in '69. Ellen Willis' liner notes are inspired.

Record companies like to launch live lps at Christmas when people buy first and regret later. (Like the Eagles? That's right, Virginia.) FLEET-WOOD MAC LIVE is the ex-

ception. Eighteen cuts have been culled from twelve performances. Five of the tunes have never been done by this band before — including original lead guitarist Peter Green's "Oh Well," a tune from Buckingham's pre-Mac career, and a chestnut from the Beach Boys' first lp, "Farmer's Daughter." The vocals are mixed up, and the backing sparse. Without the studio gloss of their other lps, the songs take on a new life. Funny, that's what I hadn't even hoped for.

Two other live lps are out, but I haven't heard them yet. Warren Zevon's STAND IN FIRE got a rave review in Rolling Stone which I trust it merits. Roberta Flack and Peabo Bryson have a live one on two lps.

The latest of arrivals will be Pearl Harbor's second — coming out of England with some help from Ian Dury's Blockheads and the Clash. Early reports are raves, and it ought to hit the stores December 22.

★ ★ ★

If you've actually read this far, you must be a fool like me who likes to read about music. If so, take note. The new coffee table book on the Beatles (which has been running in the Chronicle) boasts a fine witty text by Geoffrey Stokes and some amazing photos. The Rolling Stone History of Rock and Roll has been revised and reissued in a new format. The bad news is that many of the magnificent poster-sized photos have shrunk from main exhibits into footnotes. The good news is that it will fit in your lap. The Rolling Stone Record Guide edited by Dave Marsh and John Swenson is predictably New York chauvinist but still one of the most enjoyable reference books I own. Peter Guralnick's Lost Highway (following blues and country artists back into the communities they live in and play for) is some of the most provocative and sensitive writing to be found on the subject.

★ ★ ★

Happy shopping, comrades. If we've made it this far, things can only get more interesting. Remember, come spring we'll have a new President, but we'll also have a new Donna Summer album, and a new Clash album, and a new Donny and Marie album. I'll be taking a thiazine cure and promise to return ready to face the challenge. In the meantime, however unlikely the accompaniment, may every song you sing be your favorite tune. ■

Adam Block

Program of Feminist Erotica

Women Against Violence in Pornography and Media and the Women's Building will be sponsoring a program of feminist erotic art and poetry on February 14. Women poets, as well as women visual artists in all media, are invited to submit erotic poetry and art for inclusion in the program.

Interested visual artists should bring their work to the Women's Building, 3543 18th Street, between 2 and 5pm on Wednesday, Jan. 14, or between 6 and 9pm on Thursday, Jan. 15. Interested poets should submit 3 to 10 poems to: Women's Building Office, 3543 18th St., San Francisco, 94110, Attn: Arlene Stone.

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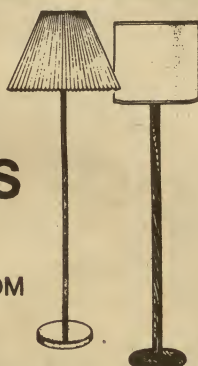
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The Importance of Being Oscar: The Life and Wit of Oscar Wilde

by Mark Nicholls
St. Martin's Press - \$11.95

"I feel that football is all very well as a game for rough girls, but it is hardly suitable for delicate boys."

Oscar Wilde would never make a bosom buddy of John Wayne, but he was noted for the ability to drink all the miners under the table, in Colorado, on his American tour. On another occasion in a fight with a bunch of bullies we are told he gave a good account of himself. So who is to say what is butch or fem?

Mark Nicholls (a pseudonym) has succeeded in capturing the lighter side of Wilde. The tragic aspects are played down until the end. Nicholls, the creator of twenty-four widely varied books, concentrates on the loving humor and biting invective of the mad Irishman.

The chronicle of his life and times is easily digested and moves rapidly. This is not a full scale biography, but a quick

glimpse of what the man said and wrote. In large measure the treatment here will strike many readers as a glorified scissors and paste job consisting of clever one-liners connected by small bits of serious prose. Certainly this Gay 19th century wit was brilliant, but this endless stream of quotes numbs the mind after a few pages. More straight narrative would be effective.

Nicholls is reluctant to venture into Gay sensibility more than is necessary. He refers superficially to "an imbalanced sexual streak in his nature." We assume he means Wilde's bisexual side. Why be coy about it now?

Wilde had his faults, but few are revealed. Nicholls tends to worship his subject uncritically.

At one point the infamous short story "The Priest and The Acolyte" is mentioned only briefly. This controversial tale was once attributed to Wilde, but our jolly friend always denied authorship. It appeared in *The Chameleon* and was apparently written by the editor, John Bloxham. Wilde had also contributed an article for the same issue. But the intriguing question of the sexual scandal surrounding the story, or even the content, is never pursued.

The trial and disgrace of poor Oscar is filled with human sidelights but little that is new is unearthed. We wonder why the Victorian public felt so vengeful toward their former idol. Lord Macaulay is quoted and his thoughts provide perspective.

We know of no spectacle so ridiculous as the British public in one of its periodical fits of morality. In general, elopements, divorce and family quarrels pass with little notice. We read the scandal, talk about it for a day, and forget it. But once in six or seven years our virtue becomes outrageous . . . some unfortunate man, in no respect more depraved than hundreds whose offenses have been treated with leniency is . . . singled out as an expiatory sacrifice . . . At length our anger is satiated. Our victim is ruined and heartbroken. And our virtue goes quickly to sleep for seven years more.

Alas, Oscar is gone, but his love of life and gaiety lives on!

Frank J. Howell



Ken Korpi and Benton Wong in *LUMINOUS ROSE* from Christopher Beck & Company's dance concert, weekends in January at Centerspace. (Savage Photography)

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A Novel of Keen Insight

Contract With The World

by Jane Rule
Harcourt-Brace-Jovanovich, \$12.95

In contemporary literature there is always the sad truth that bad writing overwhelms and submerges the good. Harold Robbins once arrogantly demanded to know why he shouldn't receive the Nobel Prize for Literature. After all, his books had sold millions of copies world-wide. What other criteria did one need?

Hacks like Robbins drown out the quiet but compelling voice of authors like Canadian Jane Rule, who continues to give the discriminating reader keen insights into the human condition.

Her other novels, especially "The Desert of the Heart," have always been well received. She has also produced a collection of short stories, and a book of criticism, "Lesbian Images."

In "Contract With The World," Rule introduces us to a

(Continued on next page)

Author Jane Rule



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Xmas Books

(Continued from Page 39)

deeply ambivalent set of characters who usually manage to rise above their failures and continue their struggle toward the bright light.

Allen is a Gay free lance photographer who lives with Pierre, his young, androgynous lover. His life is nearly shattered when he is caught in a homosexual scandal. Pierre says, "Allen is my religion; sex for me is prayer."

Joseph and Ann are a couple who also manage to survive when Joseph suffers a mental illness.

Mike, like most of the people in the group, is an artist who is married to Alma. They have two sons. Mike leaves home on occasion as he is unable to cope with the demands of family life. He usually returns and starts anew.

Alma is bisexual and brings Roxanne to live with her and the sons when Mike leaves home for a time.

Roxanne is rather flighty and fickle. She is a sort of sister to Pierre. She eventually leaves Alma.

Carlotta, one of the strongest and most arresting of the people we meet, is a passionately dedicated artist who likes to paint portraits of her friends. She reveals character traits through her paintings that do not emerge in other ways. She is cold but strong.

Rule builds her story on solid characterizations and yet the plotting does not lose itself in the process. Her writing is frequently introspective but always connected with the outside world. Gentle pearls of wisdom and insight seep through her events and the impulses of her people. For example, one of her characters remarks, "Why is it that men . . . never manage to believe in themselves without a deeply sympathetic audience?"

The people in "Contract" are real survivors who manage to evoke our sympathy and love. They are neither heroes or villains. They outrage us at times, but in the end we are still hoping for their survival.

Frank J. Howell

Guardians of the Flutes: Idioms of Masculinity

by Gilbert H. Herdt
McGraw-Hill - \$17.95

Even before the time of Margaret Mead and her "Coming of Age in Samoa," both lay readers and anthropologists have looked to primitive cultures for clues as to what constitutes basic human nature. What is man really like when stripped of his overcivilized uniform of culture and mannered responses?

Our Victorian forefathers were fond of proclaiming the innocence and benign ignorance of the "noble savage" who was un-Christian but not tainted by the evils of urban civilization. Horrors such as homosexuality were the result of impulses deflected from their "natural" course.

Anthropologist Gilbert Herdt of Stanford University has recently uncovered the obscure Sambia tribe of New Guinea. Their rituals of manhood defy

undergo profound social conditioning through early, exciting homosexual experiences that continue for years. Yet they emerge as competent, exclusively heterosexual adults, not homosexuals. Contrary to Western belief, transitional homoeroticism is the royal road to Sambia manliness.

After marriage the women also fellate the adult male in the belief that semen produces the breast milk that will make children healthy and strong. All marriages are arranged, and much of the male psychology is violently anti-female.

Yet the primitive logic underlying this strange social system is not entirely consistent. If semen is so vital, why are the older males so generous in literally giving it away to the young boys? Apparently even Herdt has not figured out this enigma. But he promises fur-

ther research on the matter. He wants to study the subjective reactions of the boys themselves to the process of the ritual.

Freud would suffer a trauma if exposed to this information. Surely his whole notion of the orderly progression of sexual maturation has been shattered. Herdt reports there are a small number of the boys who fail to march on toward conventional marriage. They desire to continue in the old rut of same sex oral contact. Surely the psychoanalyst would latch onto them for study!

Herdt makes his basic point that **homosexual behavior and identity are not always linked**. A certain psychic frame of mind must accompany the sexual act for homosexual commitment to take place.

We await further clarification from Professor Herdt. Perhaps other theories about man's nature are about to be shattered.

Frank J. Howell



GUARDIANS OF THE FLUTES Idioms of Masculinity

A study of ritualized homosexual behavior

By
Gilbert H. Herdt

all conventional Western notions of human sexuality.

Between the ages of seven and ten all males in the tribe are completely isolated from any females in the tribe, mothers included, and placed in a clubhouse for males only. The ritual of manhood is unique. The young males are forced and urged to fellate the older boys and consume their sperm. It is the firm belief that semen must be swallowed in large quantities for several years. This is thought necessary for the vital growth of the developing males. Once the precious fluid is inside the body it must be preserved.

Herdt introduces his startling findings,

Although homosexual practices emerge from ritual trauma, abundant evidence indicates that most youths also experience them as pleasurable and erotically exciting. Yet, in spite of this formidable background, the final outcome is exclusive heterosexuality of a particular form. Youths eventually become sexually attracted to women. At marriage (sixteen to twenty-five years of age) they may even act as true bisexuals, for a time. With fatherhood, however, homosexuality should cease . . . Sambia boys

Homosexuality in The Later Medieval Period

Ross-Erikson Publishing Co.
629 State Street
Santa Barbara, CA 93101

Richly detailed and documented, this study of church and society in the Middle Ages covers essentially the same ground as the now famous Boswell account published in July, 1980. ("Christianity, Social Tolerance and Homosexuality," by John Boswell, University of Chicago Press)

Life for the liberal element was free and easy until the 11th century when the Gregorian Reforms were instituted and a

crackdown on married priests commenced. Gays and other heretics were also caught in the resulting conflict. Gradually secular authority replaced the Church in the areas of moral law.

The appendix includes a detailed history of "The Trial of Arnold of Verniole for Heresy and Sodomy" in 1323. Testimony from the trial highlights the chronicle.

"Unmentionable Vice" will make a good supplement to the landmark Boswell opus.

Frank J. Howell

Homosexual Desire

by Guy Hocquenghem
Allison & Busby

(Distributed by Schocken Books,
200 Madison Ave., New York, N.Y. 10016)
\$9.95-hard cover; \$5.95-soft cover — 144 pages

Since the time of the ancient Greeks, the debate has raged over whether Gay love is proper in a civilized society. The philosophy of homosexuality is now refined to a fever pitch in a small book by French thinker Guy Hocquenghem, who teaches philosophy at the University of Vincennes.

The writing is deep and convoluted. Hocquenghem drags in Freudian theory, the Oedipus complex, capitalism, mythology, and society in general.

Originally published in France in 1972, *Homosexual*

Desire does make some points. Hocquenghem indicts the straight world for making life needlessly difficult for Gays. He feels that "homosexuality is a manufactured product of the normal world" and that "there is a close connection between homosexuality and desire." He believes bisexuality is the natural state of the world.

Homosexual Desire is difficult, but rewarding for those with a love for highly abstract arguments about man and his destiny.

Frank J. Howell

STD: A Commonsense Guide

by Maria Corsaro & Carole Korzeniowsky
St. Martin's Press — \$9.95

A time was when venereal disease merely referred to gonorrhea and syphilis. Now the term STD or "sexually transmitted diseases" reveals a host of pests that plague humanity below the belt. The variety is dazzling — from the crabs (a maddening nuisance) to hepatitis (a deadly enemy indeed). The term STD also takes in herpes, nongonococcal urethritis (NGU), nonspecific proctitis

(NSP), vaginitis and cystitis. There are twenty STD diseases and each one is described here in loving detail, along with the basic anatomy of the male and female.

Symptoms are listed in the "STD Key" and then related to the different sexually transmitted diseases. The reader is also advised about how to find treatment.

Frank J. Howell

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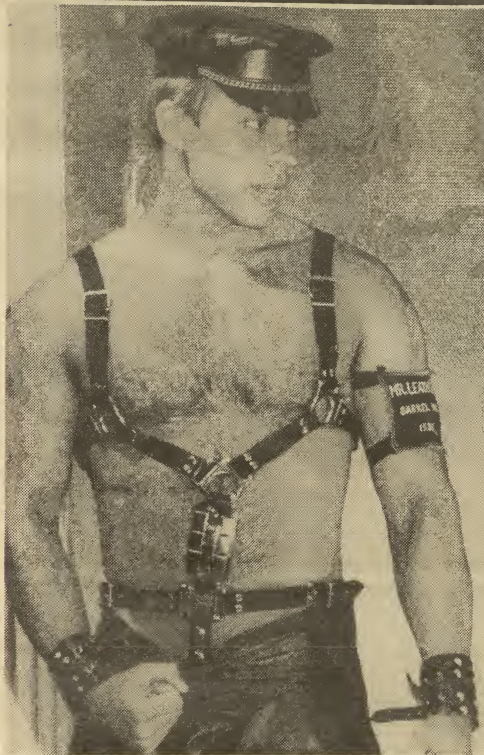
BOB'S BAZAAR

X-RATED/BAY AREA REPORTER SUPPLEMENT

Mr. Marcus

Leather in the White House?

Southern Scandals



Patrick Brookes, 1980 Mr. International Leather

On January 20 when our newly-elected fearless leader gets inaugurated, you'll be glad to know that standing close by on the reviewing stand will be a Gay leather man from San Francisco. Not only that, but his lover and his Gay son have been invited to attend (expenses paid) as well. If you watch the telly closely, you just MAY recognize him. How did this all come about? He happens to be an ex-Marine and the holder of the Congressional Medal of Honor; that's how. Of course, he'll be in dress blues, so keep your eyes peeled if you watch the show. The liberal Democrats are going to be plucked! The uniform queens will LOVE it!

I wouldn't say the holiday season seems headed for experiments in dementia and neither will you, but a review of up-coming more or less "private" parties reveals: On January 21 (Sunday — tear yourself away from the BAL(C)ONY), if you happen to be in the vicinity of 23rd & Castro you may see a horde of men decked out in leather headed for a party; that in itself is not so strange, but the fact that they MUST wear HIGH HEELS to get in should be a scream! In another area of town, THE 15 ASSOCIATION has decided to throw an 81-HOUR ORGY at their new club house on Ritch St. It

SPQR: Fans attending the recent James Brown concert went more for seeing the duds on the dudes and there were quite a few outrageous sights, but John Chatburn wowed them all with his white silk suit, lavender shirt, deep purple tie, shades and a white straw hat — not to mention his long pocket chain and rings for days. If he had been a little darker, he could have passed for Cab Caloway — Hi Dee High! Yes, that was BOZ SCAGGS sucking a brew at THE CAVE the other night, and a few minutes later he was seen wild-eyed at the BAL(C)ONY, too!

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT

for all those invited to
The Joint Holiday Party
on Saturday, Dec. 20
There has been a last minute
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don't know if he picked up a trick or not because he vanished like Houdini when he spotted Maria Sanchez in her all-leather gown! . . . The multi-talented Ned Baughman celebrated his 32nd birthday with a party that saw quite a few of the movers & shakers in attendance including Mick Hicks (Blueboy Mag), Gary Roverana (Galleria), Rink (Photo by), CHRYSLER (Tapes by), and Don Sango, who candidly admits that the only reason he liked playing the Center position in high school football (where he was known as "Bulldog") was because everyone had to put their "paws" between his upper thighs! (Thanks for telling me, Illeen!) And they tried to tell me organized sports was "healthy"! . . . I'll never know why Lee Fowler named his barbershop the CLIP JOINT. It should be the BIG JOINT. At any rate, Lee is moving his huge equipment to a new location at 2265 Market and will no longer have to listen to the trumpeting coming from the Elephant Walk below. Call

Lee at 864-4111 because he's "open" 7 days a week throughout the holidays . . . Formerly less than \$5, a little book entitled "The Erotic Drawings of John Lennon" has zoomed into an astronomical price (if you can find it anywhere) and add that to another collectible item to own if you loved him and his music — there are a lot of kooks running around. . .

If you didn't study Latin, SPQR means Senatus Populus Que Romanus.

BAY AREA RANCID TRIPEWRITER . . .

Art, art, art! Currently on display at the ARENA is a stunning show by Bobby Uyvari who designed the classic Arena poster earlier this year. The show runs until December 26 and should not be missed . . . Over at the DRUMMER CLUB (as yet unnamed), the Very Erotic Art Show spotlights the flawless work of Buzza and Billy Buttner. Billed as "Too Hot to Print," the show opens Friday, Dec. 19, and it is said to transcend mere human possibilities while documenting sexual fetishes with a surrealist devotion — don't miss it, through December 31 . . . Steve Blair (formerly of BONES) is now slinging the booze at CHOP'S, so drop in and say Hi . . . And if you're

tired of the standard holiday fare, you might check out LA CASA GRANDE, a newish Mexican restaurant at 253 Church (near Market) next door to the PILSENER INN, another newish Gay Bar garnering a lot of customers . . . The new SF-EAGLE got their building permit and it's full steam ahead and will probably be opening on or about February 1 — keep in touch! . . . Dick Collier Jr. and all the Troc-ladites will be celebrating Christmas this Friday night FREE for all their cardholders and flashed that a super-star will be on hand New Year's Eve. Bobby Vitteriti, the Super DJ in the U.S. moves to DREAMLAND but will be at Conceptual Entertainment's big bash, RESOLUTIONS, on New Year's Eve with thousands of lasers. The Galleria will sparkle, and for \$35 you get all that and Heaven too. The food will be by Bon Appetit (I dropped the "e") and partying is scheduled from 10PM to 6AM — don't miss it!

Theatre Rhinoceros opened DEAR LOVE OF COMRADES last Thursday, a very funny musical. I fainted when I saw PRISTINE CONDITION (formerly of the Cockettes) portraying E.M. Forster, but Daniel Osman as George Merri-ll stole the show. Don't miss it, on through January 10 . . . Phil

(Continued on next page)



PHOTO BY TIM BRAY

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Mr. Marcus

(Continued from Page 41)

Slatin blew into town from Newport Beach — and partying is the order of the day — welcome home, DUDE!

★ ★ ★

In spite of all the clues I gave you, there are still some who haven't found the hole. I'll give you one more clue — it's on Harrison Street — and that's all!

★ ★ ★

I hear SF's only REAL royalty, Count Reynaldo del Fino has gone "straight" and is moving into an apartment in the 1400 block of Stevenson Street (behind the Rainbow Cattle Co.). His wife is a leather freak and goes by the name of "Michelle." Harrumph!

★ ★ ★

Since it IS the Christmas season and since I am not a poet, I welcomed the following from Rick Leathers. It's good advice and I hope you will give it some consideration:

My Christmas wish for men in leather is that we get our act(s) together. A good start would be learning how to cruise. Instead of pasing 'til we drop from booze.

Too many hat men stand around like stone. Then bitch when we have to go home alone. If you want a good man, you've gotta be one too, 'Cause you gotta be a good fuck to get a good screw.

This season let's show some real Xmas cheer. And enjoy the hell out of being queer. Don't just stare, go up and say "Hawdy!" Be friendly, be open, grape him, be rowdy.

It's about time we all learned to care for each other. So walk up and reach out and bear hug your brather!

★ ★ ★

LATE FLASH: Linda Clifford will be at the GALLERIA on New Year's Eve IN PERSON. . . . The Cable Car Awards are on Sunday, Feb. 8, at the Japan Center Theatre. . . . Davey Doyle — hurry and get well! . . . Pushy Phyllis for Empress de SF. . .

Have a Cool Yule! See you all around the campus; and remember, good will is achieved by many actions — it can be lost by one.

MISTER MARCUS

**DON'T MISS
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Sweet Lips Sez

Together Again . . . For The First Time

by Dick Walters

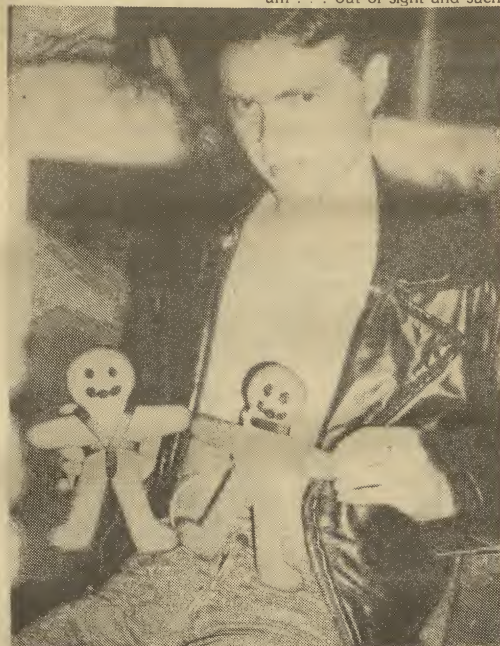
Yes, it is true . . . yours truly is working at the Hob Nob on Geary & Leavenworth Streets Mondays, Tuesdays, Fridays and Saturdays from 10AM till 6PM and am working with (?) the one and only Greta Grass and John Psychas and Kevin (hunky!) and, of course, that wonderful Helen. So do drop in and have a libation with us.

Starkie and Dale are doing a little Christmas Party at the Cinch on Polk . . . there'll be homemade "Fruitcake" and 25-cents Schnapps (wait till Hans finds out!!!) from 8AM till 2PM on Saturday the 20th . . . that should be a blast!

Make your reservations early for the Kokpit's New Year's Eve Party . . . there'll be a champagne buffet supper . . . 775-3260 is the number to call to get your reservation in for that evening. Hi, Kenny and Duffy.

"Hungry Helen" of Fort Lauderdale is the hunky new doorman at the popular N'Touch on Polk Street . . . thank you, Larry and Lucy, for the lovely flowers you sent me . . . and the lunch.

Jimmy Quinn's roommate, Rose Buckley, got a call from Frank McClure (our favorite King Father) from Oregon, and he'll be here Coronation Week . . . you remember Frank, don't you, Jose, from the Opera Club days? See, I can



The last word in Christmas gifts — Bondage Gingerbread Men. (Photo by Rink)

keep a secret from you Greta . . . you had to read it here.

Russ & Jim (of the White Swallow) are taking a vacation back to Connecticut for the Christmas season . . . that should be a very pleasant one to be in the cold and snow for a week.

Darryl is back at the White Swallow after having a vacation in Hawaii and returning with the flu, etc. Glad you are well, Darryl, and it was nice to see Rome on the plank there during your absence. . .

Yes, the Yacht Club on Polk Street is closed due to a fire. Luckily it was closed when it happened so that no one was hurt . . . open up soon, Chris Granger.

Happy birthday, "Martha" . . . and I hope your brother has a good vacation here in our warm city, seeing as how cold Chicago is.

No, Bob Golovich, Ed Scott will not win the "Humanitarian" award this year for hiring me.

Rumor has it that three people are contemplating running for Empress this year . . . their initials are GG, PP, and R. You can all figure it out from there, as they will come before the Review Board (Privy Council) on January 2, and then all the campaigning will break out.

A very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year from all of us at the Hob Nob. We hope next year will be a wild one for all.

Have you seen the tree at the New Bell? I don't know how they do it year after year. Congrats to Roy, Boo and Teddy and the staff of the New Bell . . . hi, Maxine.

If you missed the Ballet Trocadero de Monte Carlo at the Opera House, you missed one of the most hilarious corps in history . . . just fantastic, weren't they, Lorelei? We

laughed till we cried.

Get your Christmas wreaths, etc., early at Urban Country on Castro Street . . . what a great array of things you can get for home or gift-giving . . . hi, Bella!

Have you seen the new downstairs store of the Emporium . . . out of sight and such

groovy numbers working there . . . paradise.

Be sure to stop at Mark Calhoun's Starlight Room on Market at 7th . . . the Christmas decorations are spellbinding! Fabulously done, Mark.

Sweet Lips

Drummer Club Hangs Art

San Francisco artist BuzZa and Midwest artist Billy Buttner will inaugurate a series of shows at SF's new Drummer Club.

According to their press release, "BuzZa's commercial work has already received international attention. His popular note cards and t-shirt designs have become part of the city he now calls home. His highly-charged erotic work has only recently been seen by the public and the reaction has been as highly-charged as the work itself. BuzZa moves between creating erotica that transcends mere human possibilities and documenting specific sexual fetishes with a surrealistic devotion.

"Billy Buttner is a paradox. A real life rodeo rider who keeps his identity secret, he has stayed out of the mainstream of Gay art circles for years, yet managing to have a profound effect on the few viewers who have actually seen his drawings. The world of Billy Buttner is the behind-the-scenes world of the rodeo, where the competition is centered at the crotch. His earthly, primitive style suggests an immediacy that is only matched by the life of a man who rides the fastest, roughest horses on the circuit. Buttner's work is having its first public showing."

The two-man exhibit opens December 19 and runs through December 31 at the Drummer Club, 278 Eleventh Street.

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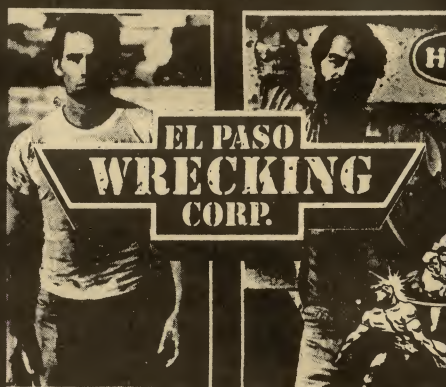


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Porn Corner —

Al Parker On Stage & Screen

Karr

HOT, HOT, HOT

Foolishly misjudging public response, I sauntered up to the Screening Room twenty minutes before Al Parker's live appearance and nearly didn't get in. This was the heaviest attended event local porno has seen, tantamount to Opening Night of Opera Season. And if no one was in white tie and tails, it was still a red-letter event. I was given a place to watch from, way up on a catwalk. From there I could watch not only the stage, but the entire audience as well, as I basked in the anticipatory air that rose densely to the ceiling.

Parker's appearance was, at first, a disappointment, for most people expected live sex and a man with behavior to match their fantasies. Yet no one could sustain that fervor at all times, and it was better to find out that Parker in "real life" is, well, real. His sexual proclivities may be excessive, but there is another side to the man. He appeared at ease, in-

genuous, soft-spoken, and mellow. There is a division between the Parker film persona and Parker himself.

Exposure to this jovial man proved to be a charming experience. Since his audience expected — and very nearly demanded — a sex act, it would have been wise if he had had some story to relate, or some biographical information. The audience needed time to change their expectations, and also time to just look at Mr. Parker. In the flesh he exudes the charisma and physical presence of the star he is. His demeanor may have been low key, but his body language filled the theater. There was little response to his call for questions, and someone even asked when he was going to take his clothes off. No one could believe that the incredible Al Parker was only going to talk! It was only at this point, when he announced that he wasn't going to undress, that the tension eased up and the audience warmed to Parker. A short Q. and A. period follow-



Taking a tip from Screening Room manager and WANTED producer Frank Ross, Al Parker puts his money where his mouth is. See it all at the Screening Room, now!

ed. What did we learn?

Originally from Boston, Parker came to California when in his early twenties, and worked in the highly professional and competitive photography and film fields, spending several years with Hugh Hefner! He was a film technician on the crew of CANT STOP THE MUSIC. The location filming in New York coincided with the premiere of INCHES, and Parker's image was plastered all over town on posters. The homophobic producers of CStheM, fearing that a homosexual taint would cause loss of box office dollars, fired Parker, and he returned to California to plan WANTED.

Of his many film co-stars he mentioned close friend and equally salacious star Mike Davis as a high point. Evading a query as to how much he'll make off WANTED, he replied that there's no money in porno, and that his other work supports his film career. He plugged his new studio, Surge, run with his lover, and di-

vulged that "Al Parker" was a nom de porno, bestowed upon him by Colt Studios. The evening's highlight, for me, came with the revelation of his real name: Drew. If any name matched the handsome features, stunning complexion and sincere warmth of a man, this is it.

Brief as it was, Parker's appearance was totally satisfying. Instead of competing with his on-screen antics, he wisely and simply presented himself in a way that can only add substance to our visions of him. Having led hands to the crotch in the past, this time he went straight to the heart.

After this the movie was nearly anti-climactic. WANTED concerns the prison escape of Will Seagers and Parker, shackled together but decidedly separate. Seagers portrays a straight man who at first reviles Parker, but grows to at least understand him. It's a little convoluted, and very much unbelievable in its exposition. The whole world knows

Seagers is Gay, and the whole world knows he's not much of an actor. So the plot is a little distracting. With stars like these two, simplicity should have been the key: just let 'em at each other. But this story actually separates them, and we never get the fireworks we all know these two should provide. Better to have let them portray friends, and added plot in outward devices, such as recapture and second escape, that would not have kept them apart.

This reservation aside, the movie is enjoyable. Jack Wrangler's portrayal of the cracker jail warden is as overwrought as only Jack can be, but his sex is as reliably potent as ever. The film's high points are two flashbacks, as Parker relates to Seagers the experiences that brought him into Gayness. The first is a shower gang-bang, and the second is a dazzling and lyrical bout with a rancher, who resembles Daniel Boone crossed with Kristofferson. This scene matches the Parker/Bob Blount duet in INCHES for the intensity it conveys, and the insertion of Parker's cock and balls into the rancher's ass is a real eye-opener. And like Frederick Ashton's infatuation with ribbons flying about his ballet stages, watch Parker's foreplay in this scene. In a dreamy adagio he's infatuated, mesmerized, by drawing ribbons of spit and come from the rancher's cock. A potent and memorable scene.

Parker has a glorious JO scene, as does Seagers in his one moment of glory. Parker appears and makes love to him, licking his armpit, pinching his tits, working him over slow and wet. Seagers is unresponsive, yet when circumstances split the pair up, he speaks nearly endearing words to Parker. Is this, I asked, the true story of how Will Seagers became a fag? This last scene is not so much sex as veneration, with an adagio orgasm that stops time. A smash finale!

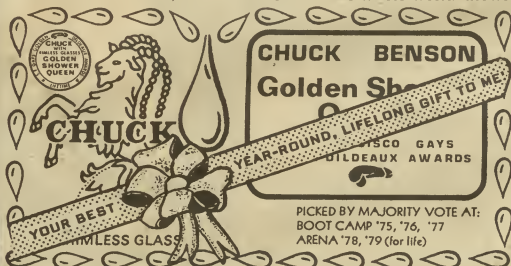
Despite the rocky road the script forces him to follow, director Steve Scott provides his usual high class job, and the cinematography is the best I've seen. Perfectly lit, precisely focused, delicately shaded, and creative in the visions offered, it sets a new high standard. WANTED offers not frenzy, but the slowly intense and penetrating sex that is Parker's recent hallmark.

The movie has one other feature of note, and that is the debut of Screening Room manager Frank Ross as Producer. It's a debut he can be proud of, and his obvious dedication to his theater and the fare it has to offer are to be congratulated and encouraged.

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Sports

Tom Vindeed, Commissioner

Mark Brown

San Francisco's Gay Softball League has elected Tom Vindeed Commissioner for the 1981 season. Tom took over the job in mid-season this year after Tony Nemger resigned. He was challenged for the top G.S.L. position by Tom Dungy.

Rounding out the Executive Board are Arthur Jackson, manager of the 527 Club, as Assistant Commissioner; Rick Brattin of Moby Dick's, Secretary; and re-elected Treasurer, Darrell Thorne of Gilmore's.

Les Balmain gave a report on the Gay World Series that will be held in San Francisco in 1982. Les stated that \$2,500 has already been pledged for the event. The 1981 World Series is to be held in Toronto, Canada. The Gay World Series Organization has done away with the 80-20 rule (80% Gay - 20% Straight) and gone to an all Gay tournament.

Glen Fiantago gave a report on the Gay Olympics to be held in San Francisco in 1982. Jack McGowan gave reports on the Gay Outreach Program and the Senior Citizen Gift

Program, "Christmas Revisited," sponsored by Parks & Recreation in conjunction with the Gay community.

The next G.S.L. meeting will take place Saturday, Jan. 10, at Noon at the new home bar of On The Mark - The Pilsner Inn, 225 Church St. (at Market).

AUBREY PALMER STARS

In a dramatic display of excellent bowling, Aubrey Palmer of On The Mark bowled a record season High Scratch Series of 758 with games of 224 - 226

of 758 with games of 224 - 266 - 268. Aubrey bettered his own league-leading total by 87 pins.

The Pendulum moved into a first place tie with the DeLuxe by taking all three games from Grady's. With one week to go before a two-week break for the holidays, the Tavern Guild League standings are:

DeLuxe	25	-11
Pendulum	25	-11
White Swallow	23	-13
Park Bowl	22	-14
Pilsner Inn	22	-14

Pin Ups	22	-14
Play With It	20	-16
On The Mark	20	-16
Grady's	19 1/2	-16 1/2
The Tight Ends	19	-17
Twin Peaks	18	-18
Unmentionables	17	-19
Ambush	17	-19
Wooden Horse	16	-20
Badlands	15 1/2	-20 1/2
Always Tan	15	-21
Arena Guards	14	-22
Blue Balls	14	-22
The Ted. E. Bears	14	-22
Pure Trash	13	-23
Alvin's	13	-23
Ambush Leather	12	-24

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McLaren Lodge - 3.5 miles, rolling. Kennedy Drive and Stanyan, Golden Gate Park.

DECEMBER 28

Golden Gate Bridge - 3.6 miles, rolling. Unpaved parking lot just east of the Toll Plaza, off Lincoln Blvd.

JANUARY 4

Dolores Park - 3.4 miles, some hills. 20th and Church Streets. Potluck Brunch.

JANUARY 11

Embarcadero South - 3.2 miles, level. Villancourt Fountain, foot of Market Street.

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on a tall tan blond with firm white buns
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HOT YOUNG BLOND
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Sensual massage by hot young blonde. Rob, 20, very gdlkg, disc, vers. 441-1564. E26

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Trim handsome hung dude will give deep gentle massage eves 474-6583 Sun-Mon am discreet E26

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PEOPLE

Gd lkg W/M, 32, seeks trim Asian guy. Mark, 673-2280. E26

Underwear, skimpy cotton briefs drive me wild. Send tel # to: E.A., 3178 17th St., S.F., CA 94110 E26

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Man 48 good body muscular will spank short men over 18 any age Paul 566-9781 E3

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\$225 mod vw flat. Prof man 25-40. Refs. 821-1485 7-9pm E1

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